Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-87-219
Friday
13 November 1987

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-87-219 *13 November 1987*

CONTENTS

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Swedish Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit 1
Talks With Malmierca 1
Meets With Rodriguez 1
Confers With Fidel Castro 1
Meets With Journalists 2
Praises Talks With Leaders 2
Ends Official Visit 2
International Red Cross To Inspect Prisons *[Stockholm]* 2
Poland Signs Scientific-Technical Agreement 2
OLADE Ministerial Meeting Begins 5 November 2
Executive Secretary Elected 3
Water Supply Problems Reported in Marianao 3
Colonel Lince Buried With Military Honors 3

Dominican Republic

Concern About Haitian Immigrants Rises 3
Balaguer Defends Policy 3
Massive Deportation Criticized 4
Juan Bosch Announces Political Campaign 4

Haiti

CEP Appeals to CNG for Security Measures 4
Rejected Candidates Appeal CEP Decision 5
Electoral Commission Bodyguard Shot, Killed 5
CEP Blames Ministry for Payment Delays 5

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

National Reconciliation Commission Resolution *[LA NACION 4 Nov]* 6

EL Salvador

Ungo To Return to Country in November *[AFP]* 7
Zona Rosa, Las Hojas Prisoners Release Ordered 7

Honduras

Airlines Asked Not To Fly Contras to Managua *[ACAN]* 8

Nicaragua

Comments by President Ortega in Washington 8
OAS Address 8
Press Club News Conference 14
Wright Meeting Comments 20

Cuban Adviser Kills Woman, Injures Colleagues 21
Communist Party Leader on Democratization *[Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA 30 Oct]* 21

Panama

Abadia Comments on 'Sedition,' 'Meddling' 22
OAS Envoy Berates U.S. 'Interventionism' 26
1988 Budget, Effect of U.S. Aid Cut Discussed 27

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

$500-Million Loan Disbursement Received 28
Alfonsin Reportedly To Confirm Sourrouille 28
Army Chief of Staff Meets With Leadership 28
New Federal Police Leadership Installed 29
Explosives Depot Destroyed at Naval Arsenal 29

Bolivia

Acting Minister Cited on Antidrug Aid 29
Vice President Garrett's Nephew Kidnapped *[EFE]* 29

Brazil

Sarney Asks Congressmen To Support 5-year Term 30
Sarney Postpones November Trip to Colombia 30
Army Minister Returns, Discusses Trip to UK *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 11 Nov]* 30
Oil Distribution Decision Thought 'Senseless' 30
Document Outlines Rightist Conspiracy *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 8 Nov]* 31

Chile

Foreign Minister Addresses OAS Session 32
Pinochet Addresses Businessmen on Plebiscite 33
Matthei Comments Noted 33
Further Reportage on Carreno Abduction Case 33
FPMR Reiterates Demands *[EFE]* 33
Family Questions Demands *[Buenos Aires DYN]* 34

Colombia

Navy Resumes Patrols in Disputed Gulf Area *[AFP]* 34
Reconciliation, Human Rights Councils Created 34

Peru

Garcia Justifies Measures To Face Crisis 35
Police Confirm M-19 Support for MRTA *[AFP]* 35
MRTA Declares 'Open Warfare' *[AFP]* 36
Shining Path Murders Seven in Ayacucho *[AFP]* 37

Uruguay

Government, Labor Leaders on PIT-CNT Strike 37
Economy Minister on Foreign Debt Figures *[EFE]* 37

Cuba

Swedish Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit

FL091905 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1732 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] The official talks between Cuba and Sweden began this morning at the MINREX [Foreign Ministry] in Havana. The talks are presided over by Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Sture Andersson, currently visiting our country, and Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca. Swedish Deputy Foreign Minister (Pierre Shorri), MINREX first vice minister Jose Raul Viera, the Cuban ambassador to Sweden, and the Swedish ambassador to Cuba, are among the high ranking officials attending the talks.

Talks With Malmierca

FL100317 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Official talks between Sten Andersson and Isidoro Malmierca, Swedish and Cuban foreign ministers, respectively, were held today at Cuba's Foreign Ministry. During the meeting, which was held in a cordial and friendly climate, the two leaders analyzed the international situation and bilateral relations. They also discussed various matters of mutual interest. Cuban Foreign Ministry officials and the delegation accompanying the distinguished guest were present at the talks.

Minutes later, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca introduced Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson to members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba.

Among other activities the Swedes participated in today was the inauguration of a school named after late Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was a great friend of Cuba.

Andersson, who arrived in Cuba after visiting Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua, countries which he said allowed him to be at the political center of the region, talked to the press today.

[Begin Andersson recording in Swedish with consecutive Spanish translation] After speaking to presidents, vice presidents, foreign ministers, cardinals, etc, I have a much more positive impression from the one I had before my visit on the possibility of working out the peace process in Central America. I believe that some time from now, the Esquipulas II plan will be called Central America's declaration of independence. The Central American peace process' major obstacles are not in Nicaragua but in Honduras and El Salvador. [end recording]

Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Council of State and culture minister, received this afternoon Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson. Hermes Herrera, culture vice minister; (Christer Cunnarson), Swedish ambassador to Cuba, and Alberto Dennys [Guzman], Cuban ambassador in Stockholm; as well as Fermin Rodriguez, director of Western Europe in the Foreign Ministry, participated in the meeting. Andersson and Hart exchanged views on cultural cooperation between the two countries.

Meets With Rodriguez

FL110215 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Nov 87

[(Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received this afternoon Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson and the delegation accompanying him. An extensive exchange of views on several aspects of our country's current events took place during the meeting. Carlos Rafael briefed the guests on Cuba's social development policies. The two leaders examined the perspectives created by the new international situation and the need for all democratic forces to join to guarantee peace and social rights everywhere in the world.

Confers With Fidel Castro

FL111336 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with His Excellency Sten Andersson, Swedish foreign minister, who is on an official and friendly visit to Cuba.

During their talks, they discussed current international topics, primarily the Central American situation, the peace process in this region, and the fulfillment of the Esquipulas II agreements approved by the Central American presidents.

President Fidel Castro Ruz reiterated the support of the Cuban Government for these agreements, especially the measures applied by the Nicaraguan Government, which is practically the only state that has fulfilled all the agreements reached in Guatemala by the five North American presidents.

Also stressed during the talks were the positive opportunities that will become available when the USSR and the United States sign an agreement eliminating short- and medium-range nuclear missiles and the link between disarmament and development.

Meets With Journalists

FL111348 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro last night attended the reception held in honor of Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, who will conclude his visit to our country today.

During the event, Fidel held talks with several guests on current international topics.

The Swedish foreign minister also granted a news conference last night, Tuesday, which was attended by national and foreign journalists who reported on his visit to our country.

In response to journalists' questions, Andersson underscored the importance of the extensive and open environment in which he held talks with Cuban leaders and he stressed the good impression his visit to Cuba has made on him. He also discussed other topics of international interest at the news conference.

Praises Talks With Leaders

FL111409 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text]Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson stressed the similar opinions of Cuba and Sweden in reference to the Esquipulas agreements yesterday. The leader said that during his talks with President Fidel Castro, Cuba ratified its support for these agreements to achieve peace in Central America. Cuba reiterated its position to do whatever is asked of it to guarantee the fulfillment of these accords, he added.

Andersson said the educational assistance Cuba provides to countries like Mozambique is a true example of international solidarity. He condemned the vandalistic actions against that country and he called for sanctions against South Africa.

The Swedish foreign minister said he held productive talks with First Vice President Raul Castro, Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, and Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca.

Ends Official Visit

FL112259 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2132 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson left Havana this afternoon at the end of his official visit to Cuba which began last Sunday [8 November]. Isidoro Malmierca, his Cuban counterpart, saw him off at the Jose Marti International Airport together with Swedish Ambassador (Christer Gunnarson) and high-level foreign ministry officials. Andersson and his delegation left for Caracas in an executive plane sent by the Venezuelan Government. He will pay an official visit to Venezuela and will later go to Montevideo, Uruguay before returning to Stockholm.

During his stay in Havana, the chief of the Swedish diplomats held talks with Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and inaugurated the Olof Palme School in La Lisa.

International Red Cross To Inspect Prisons

LD121455 Stockholm International Service in Swedish 1000 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Cuba is going to let the International Red Cross inspect all the prisons in the country the minister of foreign affairs, Sten Andersson, said after talks with Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez in Havana. According to Sten Andersson, Cuban leader Fidel Castro has confirmed the offer to Red Cross.

After the visit to Cuba, the Swedish minister of foreign affairs has continued to Venezuela on his tour of Latin America.

Poland Signs Scientific-Technical Agreement

FL130151 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Nov 87

[Text] Broad cooperation possibilities between Cuba and Poland in the scientific-technical field were discussed today in a news conference held at Havana's Sierra Maestra Hotel. Ryszard Pregiel, minister of the Office of Advancement of Science and Technology of Poland said at the conference:

[Begin Pregiel recording in Polish with consecutive Spanish translation] Cuban and Polish specialists will start the operations of a cardboard and bristol board factory located in Santa Cruz del Norte. We have spent a lot of time training Cuban specialists who will later work in this factory. Although we are pleased with the cooperation we have provided so far we still feel it is not enough. [end recording]

Pregiel said: We are interested in building an activated charcoal plant using sugarcane bagasse. He underscored his country's interest in increasing cooperation in electronics, which includes automation, telecommunications, and computer science, as well as in the field of metallurgy in which Poland has achieved a large degree of development. Cuba and Poland signed a scientific-technical cooperation agreement this afternoon.

OLADE Ministerial Meeting Begins 5 November

FL052030 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] The 18th OLADE ministerial meeting began at Havana's Palace of Conventions today. Joel Domenech, vice president of the Council of Ministers of Cuba and

president of the National Energy Commission, and Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of the Atomic Energy Commission, presided over the opening session.

The main topics to be analyzed at the OLADE ministerial meeting will be the approximately $400 billion foreign debt which burdens Latin American countries and its effects in energy development in the area.

Twenty-two delegations from Latin America and the Caribbean are participating in the meeting. Observers from the United Nations, the EEC, CEMA, the International Energy Agency, and the UN's International Development Association are participating as well. The meeting will continue until tomorrow, at which time OLADE's new executive secretariat will be announced.

Executive Secretary Elected

FL071332 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 87

[Text] The 18th OLADE ministerial meeting has ended in Havana with the political will of strengthening regional unity for the integration of the sector. Ernesto Melendez, Cuban minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, made the closing remarks.

The forum elected by acclamation Gabriel Sanchez, from Colombia, as new OLADE executive secretary until 1990.

Water Supply Problems Reported in Marianao

FL111432 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Report by Pio Luis Machado]

[Text] The Marianao Municipal Aqueduct Administration has advised its users that the La Lisa impulse turbine fuses have blown and for this reason, the neighborhoods of El Palmar, some sectors of Los Pozitos, and the high areas of La Salle, have been left without water. The authorities expect to have the problem solved as soon as possible.

However, we do not understand why the people are being left without water for long periods of time just because fuses at this very important pumping station have blown. It is very easy to change a fuse; however, at the time this report was drafted, the residents of those neighborhoods, who only receive water every other day, had been without water for 9 hours.

Colonel Lince Buried With Military Honors

FL031718 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Nov 87

[Text] Colonel Arturo Lince Gonzalez was buried with the appropriate military honors at the FAR cemetery yesterday afternoon after suffering from a massive heart attack last Sunday [1 November]. Colonel Lince fought with the underground and was a member of the Rebel Army. He participated in various combats in columns one and six and founded the Frank Pais Eastern Front.

Lince held several positions in the Revolutionary Air Force after the triumph of the revolution. He was also assigned to other state and party positions on the Isle of Youth, where he was first secretary of the PCC municipal committee for over 10 years. He joined the FAR once more in 1979. There he headed the section in charge of livestock and agricultural production to which he devoted all his efforts until the last moments of his life. He was 48 years old at the time of his death.

Dominican Republic

Concern About Haitian Immigrants Rises

FL111312 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] There is rising concern in the Dominican Republic over the increased number of illegal Haitian immigrants. The debate has become very strong since a remark made by the Dominican president about their repatriation.

President Joaquin Balaguer said this weekend that he is appalled that some Dominicans support the cause of illegal Haitians.

Balaguer Defends Policy

FL092013 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Anger overcame President Joaquin Balaguer when he learned that several sectors had criticized his government's policy in face of the illegal immigration of Haitians. The president recalled that every country in the world has immigration laws and that these laws must be respected by persons crossing borders. Balaguer used Cuba and the United States as examples of countries that require visas and official authorization for foreigners to remain in the country.

[Balaguer] "If all the borders were opened and the people were allowed to cross from one country to another without a visa, or official authorization, there (?would be no order) and, a country cannot be run without order."

Various sectors have said that the government's campaign against the illegal immigration of Haitians is an excuse to make the people forget their stifling economic problems. Balaguer rejected these views and strongly defended the government's policy to confront the situation created by the illegal crossing of Haitians into the Dominican Republic.

[Balaguer] "I know of no country that [words indistinct] the United States or Brazil [words indistinct], no country, despite how big or powerful it may be, can open its doors to all people (?of all races and latitudes). Therefore, an organized country must have a system to receive foreigners in their land."

In conclusion, President Balaguer said that those who criticize the government for its decision, are not acting like real Dominicans.

[Balaguer]"It surprises me to hear a Dominican—a patriotic Dominican—express his condemnation for the government's decision to close the country's borders to illegal immigrants."

Massive Deportation Criticized

FL111450 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1105 GMT 11 Nov87

[Monitored in progress]

[Text]...The lawyer expressed his opposition to a massive deportation campaign saying that the presence of the Haitians is important for the Dominican Republic.

(Negro Veras) said that there is a solidarity movement in the country for Haitian peasants living in Santo Domingo. The president of the Santiago Association of Lawyers said that the solidarity movement for Haitian peasants includes the Catholic Church, progressive forces, and health groups that will not allow the use of violence.

(Veras) said that the authorities should seek humanitarian mechanisms to solve the present flow of Haitians into Dominican territory. The United Nations has an organization responsible for the situation of immigrants, said (Veras).

In the Dominican Republic, there is a currently a campaign against the peaceful immigration of Haitians. It is estimated that there are close to 1 million Haitians living in the country, the majority of whom do not have documents or homes.

Juan Bosch Announces Political Campaign

FL112014 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1132 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, the Dominican Liberation Party [PLD] announced its decision to begin its electoral, political campaign to participate in the 1990 elections.

During a news conference, PLD President Professor Juan Bosch said that the time has come to begin the fight to assume power in this country. Bosch made this announcement when he revealed the agreements reached by the PLD Central Committee last Saturday.

[Bosch] "The Central Committee met last Saturday to analyze the country's situation and the (?solutions) for the immediate future. The committee decided that the time has arrived for the party to proclaim its need, for the benefit of the country, of all Dominicans, to join the fight to take power."

The Central Committee is convinced that only under the leadership of the PLD can the country resolve its economic and social problems.

Professor Bosch said that the PLD leaders also analyzed the country's economic situation, agricultural-livestock production, (?light-industry) production, and problems being confronted by thousands of homeless families in the poor suburbs of Santo Domingo. The crisis in food sales is not the result of speculation, said Bosch, but is due to the constant devaluation of the Dominican peso.

[Bosch] "The Central Committee is convinced that only under the leadership of the PLD will the Dominican Government be able to solve the serious problems that have been going on for so long. One of the most pressing problems now is of an economic nature. Manifestations of that problem are daily higher costs of living. Dominican personalities and, above all, the government, are blaming this on what they call the merchants' speculation."

During his announcement of the PLD's plan to assume power, Bosch said, nevertheless, that his methods will be peaceful and he will never promote the use of violence. [words indistinct]

[Bosch] "I am working on convincing the majority of Dominicans (?to vote) for the PLD. [passage indistinct]."

Haiti

CEP Appeals to CNG for Security Measures

FL122240 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] In a letter to the National Government Council [CNG], the members of the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] reaffirm that the CEP will accomplish the mission entrusted to it by the Constitution: to organize free and honest elections in Haiti. However, they say, they will be able to accomplish their mission only if the government, which controls the Army and the police, takes the measures necessary to restore order in the country.

The nine CEP members, who note in the letter the principal attacks against electoral offices and the threats against them, also denounce the escalation of violence and crime brought about by the Macoutes, who they say are acting with impunity.

The CEP continues: Therefore, we wish to set aside all pride and all reservations to make an almost desperate appeal to you, moved by our desire to bring Haiti out of 30 years of depravity and horror.

The CEP also calls on the CNG to make a clear statement condemning the attacks of the past few days (?designed to prevent) the Macoutes or any other agitators from obstructing the electoral process. The CEP also asks the authorities to take immediate measures to insure the security of its members and (?its personnel) nationwide.

The CEP calls for the formation of an independent commission to cooperate with the organizations represented within the CEP in an objective and thorough investigation of the criminal fire at CEP headquarters on 3 November. In this connection, the CEP says it deplores the authorities' laxity and asserts that the persons responsible for the attack were aided and abetted by powerful people at various levels.

Rejected Candidates Appeal CEP Decision
FL122306 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Paul Cauvan, Napoleon Aubourg, and Patrick Fanini-Lemoine, three lawyers for the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP], must tomorrow go before a judge sitting in chambers to respond to a summons by Mr Claude Raymond.

According to a source close to Mr Raymond, whose candidacy was rejected by the CEP on 2 November, Raymond does not intend to attack the substance of the CEP's decision or to base his case on any actual electoral contestation, but rather to contest the method used by the supreme electoral tribunal to issue the verdict. This is an action that Mr Raymond finds arbitrary, illegal, and unconstitutional.

Other rejected presidential candidates—Alphonse Lahens, Jean Theagene, and Edouard Francisque—have also appealed the CEP's decision. Their summons should reach the CEP members soon.

We have learned that Mr Clovis Desinor has chosen to attack the CEP's decision before the Superior Audit Office [cour superieur des comptes]. The rejected candidate says that the decision constitutes an abuse of power and authority by state officials; in this case, the CEP members.

The CEP representatives are to appear at the law courts tomorrow morning in response to Mr Claude Raymond's summons.

Article 63 of the electoral decree, in comformity with Article 197 of the 1987 Constitution, stipulates that only the decision of the CEP counts in electoral matters. It is definitive and cannot be appealed.

Circles close to the CEP believe that this move is aimed at reinstating the 12 candidacies rejected by the CEP in accordance with the 1987 Constitution.

Electoral Commission Bodyguard Shot, Killed
FL121338 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] The bodyguard of one of Haiti's electoral commission members was shot and killed late Tuesday. A Haitian daily newspaper said yesterday that a policeman killed the bodyguard of an unidentified commission member near the electoral commission's headquarters outside Port-au-Prince.

There are reports that police ordered the bodyguard to drop a weapon and when he did so, one of the officers fired on him anyway.

CEP Blames Ministry for Payment Delays
FL122214 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] A communique from the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] informs all registration office personnel that the Finance Ministry is responsible for their payment delays. This problem is affecting all CEP administrative units, and the situation might last for the duration of the week, according to the meeting held with the authorities.

The CEP asks all registration office personnel and regular employees to be patient, understanding, and cooperative despite the problems encountered, so that the elections can be a success.

Costa Rica

National Reconciliation Commission Resolution

PA122129 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish
4 Nov 87 p 18a

[Resolution of the National Reconciliation Commission; date not given]

[Text] The "Procedure To Establish Firm and Lasting Peace in Central America," better known as "the Esquipulas II act," establishes that the five governments are obliged to create a "national reconciliation commission" whose general functions consist of "verifying the existence of the national reconciliation process" and "verifying the fulfillment of the commitments" made by the governments which signed the document and which deal with:

1. Amnesty; 2. Cease-fire; 3. Democratization and free elections; 4. Unlimited respect for all civil and political rights of citizens; and 5. Improvement of democracy.

The Costa Rican Government, faithful to its commitments, created the commission which we members comprise. This commission expresses the firm desire of all Costa Rican social and political forces to be active participants in the peace efforts.

For these reasons, the members of the National Reconciliation Commission,

Whereas:

First: One need not wait until Costa Rica reaches the dramatic situation of other Central American peoples—victims of military confrontations and irreconcilable social differences—to begin, in accordance with our untarnished traditions of tolerance and democratic civility, a process of dialogue and reconciliation that will allow us to find our own path to improve and deepen our democracy.

Second: The Esquipulas II act clearly establishes that "in those cases where there have been deep social divisions" there must be "actions of national reconciliation that will allow the people to participate with full guarantees in authentic democratic processes based on justice, freedom, and democracy."

Third: Our commission is obliged to exhaustively examine the Costa Rican situation.

Fourth: Its work consists of the "verification of the fulfillment of the commitments that the five Central American governments made by signing" the Esquipulas II document.

Fifth: Those commitments are extremely serious, and even for such a developed and full democracy as Costa Rica they constitute an obligation difficult to completely fulfill. Those commitments refer to "an authentic democratic, pluralistic, and participatory process, which entails the promotion of social justice" and "the respect for human rights." The governments also committed themselves to undertake "in a verifiable manner" measures that will lead to "the perfecting of democratic, representative, and pluralistic systems to guarantee the organization of political parties and the effective participation of the people in the decisionmaking process and guarantee various currents of opinions access to honest and periodic electoral processes" based on "complete political pluralism" and "free access to the communications media;" regulated by "the strictest norms of equal access to the communications media by all parties."

Sixth: The analysis of all these elements and the drafting of opinions on them constitute an unavoidable task and responsibility of our commission.

Seventh: That we are aware of the natural human and temporary limitations in giving our people and other Central American peoples a proper and just reply to each one of their worries or in giving a definitive solution for those who have realized that peace, justice, and liberty are three inseparable factors. However, in response to the confidence and hope that so many men and women have placed in us, the National Reconciliation Commission resolves:

First: That the commission's role is not that of judging, condemning, or acquitting; but that of reviewing and verifying that a process is under way for the improvement of the conditions for social and political coexistence among Costa Ricans. This involves every aspect related to amnesty, cease-fire, democratization, free elections, and absolute respect for all the citizens' civil and political rights. Of course, all those aspects are to be analyzed within the context of Costa Rican democracy.

Second: That to carry out its job the commission requires the firm support of the government of the Republic and of the government institutions, of the media, and of all citizens in all social levels and conditions.

Third: That the commission is willing to listen to the proposals made by Costa Ricans organized in political parties, cooperatives, unions, community and peasant organizations, chambers, solidarity groups, and any other association of people or entities that could contribute to the commission's objectives. In this manner the commission will be informed and will be able to objectively evaluate the real situation of social differences and popular demands regarding the exercise of our democracy and the other aspects mentioned in the Esquipulas II agreement.

Fourth: That the commission intends, to the extent of its ability, to add to the Central American peace efforts the valuable contribution of the Costa Rican people, who for more than 150 years have achieved their status with their

dedication to creative work, civic-mindedness, dialogue, tolerance, and democracy. Even above our commitments with other peoples and governments, we feel it is our duty to prevent war and social chaos, based on the nation's historic values.

Fifth: That the commission reiterates its unwavering determination to faithfully fulfill its duties during the pacification period in Central America.

Members

Joaquin Vargas Gene
Msgr Roman Arrieta Villalobos
Juan Jose Trejos Fonseca
Luis Paulino Mora Mora

Alternates

Leticia Chacon Jinesta
Msgr Antonio Troyo
Alvaro Montero Mejia
Luis Fernando Vargas Benavides

EL Salvador

Ungo To Return to Country in November

PA130513 Paris AFP in Spanish 0421 GMT 13 Nov 87

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Nov (AFP)—FDR President Guillermo Ungo today confirmed that he will return to El Salvador sometime between 20 and 30 November to "explore the political situation" and study the possibility of incorporating himself to the democratic process, shielded by the Esquipulas II peace plan.

Ungo, who has lived in Panama since 1980, said during a telephone interview with AFP that "there are now no democratic conditions in the country, but we believe that the obligations acquired by President Napoleon Duarte when he signed the peace document force him to promote a democratization process." "We feel we have every right to exercise our political liberties, but we know that there are sectors and death squads in the government that do not want that," Ungo noted, in an obvious reference to the recent killing of Herbert Anaya, a human rights defender in El Salvador.

Anaya was murdered at the end of October by unidentified people who machinegunned him down in the Salvadoran capital. As a protest against this killing, the guerrillas suspended a scheduled meeting with the government during which a cease-fire was going to be discussed.

Ungo, who is also secretary general of the National Revolutionary Movement, which is legally registered in El Salvador, said that he is trying to secure "political company" that could guarantee his safe return as well as that of Ruben Zamora and other members of the Social Christian People's Movement.

Regarding the death squads, Ungo stated that "since 1980 they have been active and have been carrying out actions to assassinate the Salvadoran people." He said that "El Salvador is one of the few countries in the world that has the fateful honor of dealing with death squads."

Ungo stated that in the past 7 years those extreme rightist groups "have killed over 60,000 Salvadorans, including 6 FDR leaders and San Salvador Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero."

The death squads, Ungo said, have not been dismantled because "they are linked to the government."

According to Ungo, President Jose Napoleon Duarte is not responsible from a criminal point of view, "but from a political one" for the activities carried out by these groups, "which do not believe in democratic mechanisms, because they believe in terror."

"I hope the problems of El Salvador can be resolved soon and not when everybody is buried in cemeteries," Ungo said.

Finally, the FDR politician was pleased with the release of the political prisoners from Salvadoran jails. They were released after the government issued an amnesty decree in compliance with the Central American peace agreements.

However, he said, "if they are killed in the next few days it will be a fateful amnesty" declared in El Salvador.

Salvadoran Justice Minister Julio Samayoa, commenting on the return of the leaders of the political wing of the guerrillas, said that "they have the right to do so."

Samayoa added that according to the amnesty decreed on 5 November, "the rebel leaders do not need to make a public statement that they are joining the democratic process."

Zona Rosa, Las Hojas Prisoners Release Ordered

PA122202 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Report by David Marciano Rivas]

[Text] Preliminary military Judge Jorge Alberto Serrano a few minutes ago gave the director of Mariona's La Esperanza Prison the order to release the three people implicated in the killing at Las Hojas [as heard] in 1985 in this capital. We repeat: Preliminary military Judge Jorge Alberto Serrano a few minutes ago gave the director of Mariona's La Esperanza Prison the order to release the three people involved in the killing at Zona Rosa in this capital.

According to the release order, William Celio Rivas Bolanos, Jose Abraham Dimas Aguilar, and Juan Miguel Garcia Melendez may leave their cells in the Mariona

prison center. They are the members of the FMLN commando who in June 1985 riddled with bullets six U.S. citizens, including four Marines; a Guatemalan; a Chilean; and four Salvadorans. The case became known internationally as the Zona Rosa massacre. Here are statements made by Judge Serrano when he confirmed the report to this station's newsroom:

[Begin recording] I have just stated that the court's ruling has been for the benefit of these gentlemen, who were charged in the Zona Rosa case. In Articles 1 and 2 the amnesty law refers to crimes covered by the law; that is, the crimes for which people can be tried (?and also) pardoned. [Words indistinct] in the present proceedings they have been accused of the crime of subversive [words indistinct]; subversive operations and propaganda; and of being members—pardon me—of stealing a car, which is a common crime, (?connected) with a political crime. This act of terrorism has already been proven [words indistinct] and it is publicly known. But as I have already said, the amnesty law has been so extensive that it has included this case; and out of respect for this law we have proceeded to give the corresponding release orders for Mariona prison. They may leave this morning or this afternoon—it is up to them. The court, in strict compliance with this amnesty law, has resolved this case, which is so nationally and internationally known. [end recording]

These were statements made by preliminary military Judge Jorge Alberto Serrano, who confirmed the release orders issued today for the three people involved in the Zona Rosa massacre.

It was also reported that at 1130 yesterday, the Sonsonate judge issued the release orders for Colonel Elmer Gonzalez Araujo, Captain Carlos Alfonso Figueroa, and a Major Linares, who are exempt from any prosecution in the Las Hojas massacre case. According to members of the National Association of Salvadoran Indians, ANIS, 74 Indians were killed by members of the Armed Forces led by Colonel Elmer Gonzalez Araujo. The three top military leaders were released because of the amnesty law decreed by the government a few days ago in compliance with the Esquipulas II agreements.

Honduras

Airlines Asked Not To Fly Contras to Managua

PA121918 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1741 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan Civil Aeronautics Directorate has asked the Honduran airlines TAN and SAHSA not to fly any of the eight leaders of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] back to Managua.

The request was made in writing to the airport managers of the two Honduran airlines and to their general manager, General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano, retired.

The letter is signed by Sergio Buitrago and Cesar Zelaya, director and assistant director, respectively, of the Nicaraguan Civil Aeronautics Directorate.

The letter specified that TAN and SAHSA must instruct their respective reservation and ticket sales offices not to let "those eight U.S. Government workers" board their aircraft for Managua.

The people the Honduran airlines must not transport to Managua are Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, Azucena Ferrey, Alfonso Robelo, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, Aristides Sanchez, Brooklyn Rivera, Steadman Fagoth Muller, and Alfredo Cesar.

Honduran airline circles believe the same request has been made to all airlines whose planes stop in Managua.

Nicaragua

Comments by President Ortega in Washington

OAS Address

PA111952 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1658 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega to the OAS General Assembly in Washington—live]

[Text] Mr President, secretary general, foreign ministers, delegates, and friends:

The current situation in Central America is not at all usual. Central America and, in fact, all of Latin America and the Caribbean are experiencing an extraordinary, unprecedented moment in our history, a moment characterized by the recognition that when the sovereignty of one country is threatened, that of all countries is threatened. I will not make a lengthy speech at this time regarding things already known to you; besides, the text of this speech will be distributed to you.

In essence, I would like to refer at this time to the fact that Latin America and the Caribbean are experiencing their most important moment since independence. We are determined to confront our debt problems and the increasing deterioration of trade terms, and all of the other problems affecting our countries. And there is the problem of our people's self-determination.

On 7 August I signed the Guatemala agreement, and it is this I would like to refer to. This agreement was made possible by the actions and efforts of the Contadora and Support Groups. This agreement was made possible by the heroism and combative spirit of the Central American peoples and by the Central American leaders' firm decision to sign it. This agreement was made possible by the international community's support and by the participation of OAS Secretary General Joao Baena and the UN secretary general. This agreement was made possible by the initiative of Guatemalan President Vinicio

Cerezo, who on the day he took office invited all of the Central American leaders to talk, to negotiate, and to meet to discuss the problems affecting us. It is here that the decision to meet was made. This agreement was made possible by the firm attitude of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who, adopting the peaceful spirit of the Costa Rican people, has contributed to peace and has made it possible for us to work for peace in Central America, thus earning the just recognition of the Nobel Peace Prize. The agreement was possible, in short, due to the Nicaraguan people's heroic determination to withstand and face the U.S. aggression and to resist, even after U.S. Government attacks, with the international community's moral support. The agreement was also made possible by the firm and belligerent attitude of U.S. citizens such as Brian Willson, whose wife Claire Rauen is here with us. Brian Willson is a hero for peace. He recently lost his legs when he was hit by a train loaded with weapons for Central America. The agreement was made possible by the sacrifice of Benjamin Linder, the American killed in Nicaragua by the bullets the U.S. Government supplies to the mercenaries.

Some priests would have liked to have accompanied us this morning, but they are not here because they are in prison. They are in prison because they decided to express themselves and demonstrate peacefully. However, the U.S. democracy has put them in jail.

Nicaragua has faith in the Central American presidents' determination to make these agreements a reality in their entirety.

Nicaragua is willing to fulfill the agreements 100 percent. I will not mention all the steps Nicaragua has taken, because they are well known. I will mention the latest step, which is Nicaragua's willingness to begin a mediated dialogue with the people paid by the CIA, who are known as the counterrevolution's leadership. These people receive a salary to serve the U.S. Government. They are the problem whom we refer to in Nicaragua as Reagan's children, who are fighting Sandino's children.

Abiding by the Guatemala peace agreement, we are willing to work toward a cease-fire agreement. We appointed Cardinal Obando y Bravo; we proposed to him that he be the intermediary.

The U.S. Government—that is, President Reagan—had said that when this type of contact or initiative occurred the U.S. Government would simultaneously begin a bilateral dialogue with Nicaragua.

President Reagan had committed himself to doing that. What Secretary of State Shultz has said here is not in line with what Reagan promised. I hope President Reagan will keep his word, because what President Reagan said a few days ago is not in keeping with what he promised. I therefore hope President Reagan will keep his word and will proceed to establish a direct government-to-government dialogue between Nicaragua and the United States so we can find a way to normalize our relations.

Nicaragua is not an enemy of the United States. It is the United States that has waged a war against Nicaragua since the previous century. The United States invaded Nicaragua. It is the United States that threatens Nicaragua's security. Nicaragua poses no threat to U.S. security, but since the U.S. Government says we represent a threat we are willing to discuss the issue with the U.S. Government and arrive at firm, verifiable agreements so we can normalize relations. That is what we hope for.

In view of the efforts being made in Central America and the steps the Central American countries have taken, I must admit there is sincerity and firmness on the part of the Central American leaders to fulfill the Guatemala agreements 100 percent. That firmness exists.

Ninety days after the signing of the agreement, I am not the one who should make the appraisal. I do not think the U.S. President should make such an appraisal, because no one has given him that power. What is more, the one who is the executioner of people, such as the Nicaraguan people, cannot be the judge. Therefore, I do not think we can give any credit to an evaluation by the U.S. Government. We have to give credit to the evaluation made by the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission. We are all aware of this evaluation, which indicates there is a positive balance. In one way or another we have all taken steps within the framework of the Guatemala agreements. There has been progress, and we should continue working so the agreements will be completely fulfilled. The U.S. Government should contribute, however, because what it is doing at this time does not contribute.

The U.S. President continues to request aid in this fiscal year to continue financing terrorism. He still threatens to request the $270 million.

In 90 days, from 7 August to 5 November, the U.S. Government, through the CIA, sent 140 flights to supply weapons to the mercenary forces. These include a good quantity of Redeye surface-to-air missiles that threaten not only civilian air traffic in our country but also threaten international civilian air traffic. The spy flights over Nicaragua have continued. These are spy flights to provide information to the CIA, which coordinates the mercenary forces' activities. Those espionage flights with sophisticated airplanes seek to continue the dirty war against Nicaragua. Since 1981 there have been 1,740 flights. The murder of Nicaraguans, of women and children, has continued. In the past 90 days the mercenaries have kidnapped foreign journalists and U.S. citizens.

The U.S. Government has now announced that beginning in December there will be military maneuvers in Honduras involving 15,000 U.S. soldiers. That is the

reality. The Central Americans are seriously and firmly working for peace, and the United States is bent on not supporting these peace efforts.

I have come to the OAS with the certainty that the Latin American and Caribbean countries want these agreements to be fulfilled. We know there is serious support for fulfilling the agreements. Nicaragua wants to express its firm willingness to comply with these agreements. Nicaragua expects from the international community a greater belligerency so the U.S. Government will respect the agreement signed by the Central American presidents and so the U.S. Government will immediately stop all types of activities against Nicaragua. In this way we can seriously and firmly work for peace.

The steps taken by Nicaragua regarding pardon and amnesty, regarding the lifting of the state of emergency and granting pardons, have been steps taken by Nicaragua because Nicaragua once again has wanted to contribute to peace efforts with gestures such as this, which will benefit 981 prisoners. We have placed the implementation of the amnesty and the lifting of the state of emergency in the hands of the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission. When the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission determines that the conditions for simultaneity have been created—after the commission has verified in the field that there is no reason for Nicaragua to maintain the state of emergency and that it can grant amnesty—then Nicaragua will proceed to make those decrees effective, decrees that have already been approved.

We are willing to comply, and we want peace. However, we are facing the colossus. When a colossus errs, his errors are also colossal. When a colossus errs, the resulting impact is very strong. We hope that the colossus will act reasonably, for it will not be diminished by doing so. The U.S. Government has indulged in a colossal aberration concerning a matter involving the OAS and Nicaragua. It has tried to justify its attitude toward Nicaragua by basing it on an alleged violation of a nonexistent Nicaraguan commitment to the OAS. It has tried to find justification in the 23 June 1979 resolution issued during the 17th consultative meeting.

I am not going to defend Nicaragua on this issue. I think that what the U.S. President should do is read the International Court of Justice [ICJ] ruling of 27 June 1986, in which the high tribunal refers to this matter.

In part the document reads: The tribunal has summarized above the actions related to the 1979 incidents—including the resolution of the 17th assembly, the consultative meeting of OAS foreign ministers; and the note dated 12 July 1979 from the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction to the OAS secretary general, which was accompanied by a peace plan outlining, among other things, the objectives of the Nicaraguan junta, particularly its willingness to establish a new regime with a peaceful and orderly transition and respecting human rights under the control of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission. The junta invited the commission to visit Nicaragua as soon as it had assumed power. So, even before it assumed power in the Managua government the new regime gave the necessary assurances and expressed its intention to govern democratically in my country. I will now continue citing the text of the ICJ ruling.

The court, however, did not find anything in this document, resolution, or communication reporting on the, quote, peace plan, unquote, that permits one to conclude that there is a desire to create a judicial commitment. The junta had recalled in one of the documents that in considering the invitation sent by the junta to the OAS to monitor Nicaragua's political life, the OAS should not lose sight of the fact that the definition and direction of the internal politics of the country obviously depend on the willingness of the Nicaraguan people alone. The 23 July 1979 resolution also states that the solution to Nicaragua's problems is solely in the hands of the Nicaraguan people, although the resolution indicates that the solution should be inspired by some bases, which the resolution merely recommends to the future government. This resolution is merely a simple statement; it is not a formal offer that should be construed as a firm promise. Therefore, it is not legally binding.

The court also cannot confirm the idea that Nicaragua had formally made the commitment to carry out free elections, as had been recommended at the 17th consultation meeting of the OAS foreign ministers. It was basically a political promise made not only to the OAS but also to the Nicaraguan people, who should be the first ones to benefit from them. However, the court did not find any document with sufficient juridical value, unilateral or bilateral—that word bilateral, I explained [words indistinct] has to do with simultaneity—through which Nicaragua had made any commitment based on the principle and nature of holding elections. We have already mentioned the OAS Charter and the respect it gives to the political independence of the member states. Regarding internal political matters, it simply lists the social norms to which the member states agree to devote all their efforts—the ICJ ruling reads—including the gradual incorporation and participation of the rural and urban marginal sectors into the economic, social, civic, cultural, and political life of the nation to accelerate the process of social transformations and to consolidate the democratic regime.

It is obvious that dispositions toward such a nature are far from constituting a commitment to resort to specific political mechanisms. Moreover, even assuming that this political promise had been equivalent to a legally binding agreement, it would not allow the United States at all to demand the fulfillment of such a commitment, which was not made directly before them, but rather made to the OAS, which is the only one empowered to verify the fulfillment of the commitment.

The court has not found any juridical base for the matters regarding the special responsibility concerning the commitments made by the Nicaraguan Government, which the United States affirms it has assumed in view of the role it played in the current Nicaraguan Government's rise to power. Furthermore, even assuming that the United States had had any bases to act for the OAS—the text of the ICJ ruling continues—in any case the United States could not use—to achieve this objective—means that the OAS itself could not resort to, and in particular it could not consider that it was empowered to use force under those circumstances. Such a commitment is, because of its nature of support, a violation, and cannot justify the use of force against a sovereign state.

The U.S. Congress has also expressed in its conclusion the opinion that the Nicaraguan Government had adopted measures that reveal the intention of establishing a totalitarian communist dictatorship. Regardless of the definition applied to the Nicaraguan regime, the adherence of a state to a particular doctrine is not a violation of international laws. To draw other conclusions would entail eliminating the significance of the fundamental principle of the sovereignty of the states on which international law is based and the freedom every state has to chose its own political, social, and cultural system. Therefore, the internal political positions of Nicaragua, even assuming they correspond to the description contained in the conclusion reached by the Congress, cannot legally justify the various actions for which the claimant has been condemned.

The tribunal cannot admit the creation of a new rule to permit a state to intervene in another based on the fact that the latter follows a particular ideology or adheres to a particular political system. In addition, the tribunal has pointed out the importance that the Helsinki Final Act has on other aspects or, at a very different level, the importance that Resolution No 26-25 of the UN General Assembly has, because, as its name implies, this is a statement related to international law principles that deal with friendly relations and cooperation between states in accordance with the UN Charter. The tribunal has said that certain provisions in texts of this kind, such as the principle of nonuse of force and nonintervention, are of a traditional nature. Such provisions deal with relations between states with different political, economic, and social systems on the basis of coexistence between the differing ideologies that inspire those states.

The United States has not only failed to object to its approval, but also actively participated in its drafting. The same considerations are applied to U.S. criteria regarding Nicaragua's foreign policy and alliances. Regardless of the effects of these alliances on regional or world political-military balances, the tribunal only has authority to treat these issues from the standpoint of international law.

From this standpoint, it is enough to point out that—as is evident—the sovereignty of a state extends to the realm of its foreign policy and that there are are no regulations in customary international law preventing a state from drafting and implementing a foreign policy coordinated with that of another state.

The tribunal also points out that these justifications, which have only been supported in political terms—something that does not apply to this issue—have not been supported with legal arguments. The defendant state has always limited itself to the classical argument of legitimate defense. It has used a legal argument that it took from an alleged rule of ideological intervention that would have been an incredible novelty.

The tribunal recalls that a U.S. charge against Nicaragua deals with the violation of a declaration on intervention approved by the UN General Assembly in 1965, a violation based on Nicaragua's support of the armed opposition in El Salvador. The tribunal is not aware that the United States has officially given up the right to invoke this principle and replaced it with a new ideological intervention principle, the definition of which would be discretionary.

The tribunal also points out that the tribunal must not base its ruling entirely on assumptions of the sides with regard to applicable laws. It is obliged to consider—upon its own initiative—all pertinent rules of international law to resolve the conflict even when such rules have not been invoked by either side. However, the tribunal is in no way authorized to issue legal opinions to the states that they have not themselves asked for.

The tribunal also states that Nicaragua has been charged with violating human rights, according to a 1985 conclusion of the U.S. Congress. We must delve into this issue regardless of the existence of a legal commitment acquired by Nicaragua before the organization to respect such a right. The nonexistence of such a commitment would not mean that Nicaragua can violate human rights with impunity. However, when human rights are protected by international agreements this protection is reflected in specific points in the letter of the agreements. These are aimed at verifying or ensuring the respect of those rights.

Nicaragua had made a political commitment within the framework of the OAS. Therefore, the organs of this organization are empowered to verify compliance with such commitments. The tribunal pointed out that Nicaragua has ratified several international instruments regarding human rights since 1979, including the American agreement regarding this issue; that is, the San Jose pact. Those mechanisms have operated successfully.

The Inter-American Human Rights Commission has implemented measures and prepared two reports after visiting Nicaragua to honor an invitation of the government of that country. The OAS could also issue decrees based on those confirmations. Even if the United States

could have its own views on the human rights situation in Nicaragua, the use of force cannot be the proper method to verify and ensure respect of such rights.

As for the actual measures taken, the protection of human rights seen from its strictly humanitarian standpoint is in no way compatible with the mining of harbors, destruction of petroleum installations, and even with the training, arming, and supplying of the contras.

The tribunal concludes that the argument based on the preservation of human rights in Nicaragua cannot legally justify U.S. behavior. In any case, it is not in keeping with the judicial strategy of the defendant state, which is based on the right of legitimate collective defense.

The tribunal also touches on another issue pertaining to both domestic and foreign policy: the militarization of Nicaragua, which the United States believes is excessive and useful in getting approval for its aggressive objectives. In this, the United States finds another justification for its hostile actions.

The tribunal believes it is irrelevant and useless to issue a position regarding this U.S. allegation because there are no rules in international law other than those that the affected state wishes to accept by treaty or any other way to impose limits on arms levels in a sovereign state. This principle is valid for all states without exception. So much for direct citations from this portion of the ICJ ruling.

In other words, Nicaragua is not the one issuing a statement on the U.S. charge about an alleged violation of the OAS Charter, which in turn leads the United States to wage a terrorist war against Nicaragua. The court is the one that has clearly stated that there is no reason for the United States to act this way. Regarding all the arguments the United States has used about human rights violations, well, it is no longer Nicaragua but the ICJ that is saying—or is recalling—how Nicaragua made and is making efforts, like never before in its history, to respect human rights. As for Nicaragua's alleged arms buildup, it is clear that it is somewhat absurd for a country that refuses to dismantle its weapons or its plans to arm or place arms in space to talk about an alleged arms buildup in Nicaragua while it is attacking Nicaragua.

The court literally stated at the end: It rejects the justification of legitimate collective defense argued by the United States regarding its military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua, which are the object of this litigation. The ICJ decides that the United States—by training, arming, equipping, financing, and supplying the contra forces; and by instigating, supporting, and helping in any other way the military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua—has violated, regarding the Republic of Nicaragua, the obligation that international law imposes on it not to intervene in the affairs of another state.

The court concludes by ordering the United States, I literlly quote, to immediately stop the illegal activities against Nicaragua. It also decides that the United States is obliged to compensate the Republic of Nicaragua for any harm done to it by the violation of the obligations established by the international laws previously mentioned.

What better example is there than that given by Nicaragua in its respect for international law by taking this case of the U.S. aggression against Nicaragua to the ICJ. On other occasions the United States has also used this high court. We did so with the willingness to abide by the court ruling. However, the United States was not willing to respect the court ruling. The court ruling exists. It is not I, as Nicaraguan president, who is responding to President Reagan's charges, to the arguments that he uses to justify his aggressive policy against Nicaragua. Instead, it is the ICJ that is doing so. It so happens that when the ruling was issued by the court—whose composition is very pluralistic—it did not include the presence of the judge who represents the Soviet Union. The Soviet judge was not there. He was sick [words indistinct], and he did not participate. The Soviet Union cannot be accused of having influenced the court. That would be absurd, because the United States has resorted to the court.

I have come here to defend the international legal order. I think all of us, especially the Latin American and Caribbean countries, the developing countries, and the Nonaligned Movement countries, are obliged to defend the international legal order. We are obliged to defend the UN system. We are obliged to defend the OAS. We are obliged to defend the ICJ and the respect for its rulings. We are obliged to defend the international legal order because we do not possess nuclear arms. We do not enter into the negotiations because we do not have nuclear weapons.

Our strength is moral. Therefore, our strength must be based on justice, on the law, and on the defense of international law. That is where our strength lies.

On Monday, President Reagan met with you. He said that the days of the colossus of the north are over with, forever. Let us hope that is true. However, the truth is that those days are not over with. The International Verification and Follow-Up Commission will have the opportunity to verify if what I am saying is true or false. It will verify if it is true that the United States, during the past 90 days after the signing of the Guatemala agreement, has continued its policy of terrorism against Nicaragua. It has continued supplying the mercenaries with weapons. It has continued demanding funds for the mercenaries. Therefore, it does not accept the framework of the Esquipulas agreement. It wants to go beyond the Esquipulas agreement. It wants to go over and beyond the Guatemala agreements, and it is our obligation to defend these agreements.

Nicaragua was fully determined to implement the proposal in the Contadora peace plan. However, it was an overall and very complex plan, and it was impossible to reach a consensus around the Contadora peace plan.

The Guatemala agreements, let us say, are a synthesis of the Contadora peace plan. It is a synthesis that is within possibilities. It is a very realistic proposal.

It is a very complete proposal. For this reason the Central American presidents accepted it and have begun to implement it.

Therefore, the Latin Americans and the Caribbeans are obliged to support these agreements, and let no one come up with proposals that are not within the agreements because they would confuse everything, affect the progress already made, and there would be more suffering and pain for the Central American peoples. Then the disposition of the Central American and Latin American peoples that have led to the initial step would have been worthless. The efforts of the Contadora and Support Groups would have been worthless. The effort of the Guatemalan Government, the Costa Rican Government, and the Costa Rican foreign minister, our friend Don Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, who has played a very important role in all this, would have been worthless. I remember how his presence in Managua was very important for the reopening of the newspaper *La Prensa*. He made a very important contribution in the efforts to reopen the newspaper *La Prensa*.

We are bound to support the Guatemala agreeements and to make sure that the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission begins working as soon as possible. This commission should begin working not just to remain inside an office but to make on-site verification. That is the most important aspect. It must go there to verify the situation.

Nicaragua has its doors open to the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission so it can come to our country and visit any place. The commission can visit any point in our national territory, even areas against which the mercenary bands might be launching raids, because they control no territory. When the commission members arrive in Managua and say: We want to go to a place in San Jose de Bocay, for example, deep in our mountains where there could be mercenaries right now, you can be certain that the commission will go there, because all we have to do is advance our troops a little and the mercenaries will disappear from that territory. In other words, the mercenary forces do not control any territory. They have no territory under their control, not a single inch of our country.

They can go anywhere in Nicaragua at any time. All we have to do is send the advance security groups and the counterrevolutionaries will disappear from the places where they were marauding. They are marauding around there and have their camps in places where the U.S. Government installed them. They are camps installed by the U.S. Government. They are not camps installed by any of the Central American governments. They are camps installed by the U.S. Government. The bases installed in Central America are bases installed by the U.S. Government to send supplies and train the mercenaries.

Therefore, we feel it is very important that the international commission begin working as soon as possible. I think that no Central American government will refuse to help the commission operate. We are all interested in peace, and if we are all interested in peace then we must all be willing to open the doors to the commission so it can visit any place. If it wants to visit a military camp in our country—if it wants to visit the Air Force, the Navy, the armored units base, an unconventional warfare battalion—wherever it wants to visit, it can.

This would be a good opportunity for the international commission to once again prove the false nature of the U.S. Government, because it could verify if there are Soviet, Cuban, and foreign troops in Nicaragua. The commission can go to Nicaragua and see that there are no foreign troops in our country and that there are no foreign military bases in our country, even if the U.S. Government keeps repeating this. It hopes to justify its aggressive policy with those false arguments.

However, it is logical that for the commission to act within the Guatemala spirit it must operate within the framework of simultaneity; that is, when all Central Americans are willing to permit supervision. So this will be done as soon as possible because this concerns peace. This concerns working for peace, saving the lives of Central Americans, and stopping the war.

We trust that the Central American governments will give their full support to the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission.

We are very happy to see that Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal is presiding over this OAS assembly at a very important moment, because just like Costa Rica has contributed in a transcendental way so the Esquipulas agreement could be signed on 7 August, we are sure Costa Rica will also contribute to establishing the international commission and its beginning its on-site inspections as soon as possible.

President Reagan said that the days of the colossus are over with forever. Perhaps he is announcing something. We wish we could believe that this is his intention. The day that President Reagan's words become a reality, I am sure that, on that day, all of us will gladly include President Reagan's name on the list of those who have contributed to achieving a just and lasting peace in Central America.

Today is Veterans' Day in the United States. We recognize the value and sacrifice of those who gave their lives and those who survived in the defense of humankind against fascism. We also express our solidarity with those who have been and are victims of the interventionist policy of U.S. rulers who, in unjust wars, in unjust wars, [repeats himself] invaded Vietnam, Santo Domingo, and Grenada, and are now attacking the U.S. [as heard] people.

We saw one of those victims who survived: Mr Hasenfus, a U.S. citizen, whom we captured there and then released. He is a victim of this policy. Other U.S. citizens have died in our country. One of them was a U.S. Army member who was killed in our territory when a helicopter was downed. Another was a mercenary who was involved in a supply operation and was in Mr Hasenfus' flight.

In other words, there are already victims of the U.S. policy in Central America who are U.S. citizens. On the one hand, there are heroic men such as Benjamin Linder, who was a victim of the U.S. aggression, because of the bullets that the United States delivered to the counterrevolutionaries who shot at and killed Linder. However, on the other hand, there are those other victims. Hasenfus was a man who was without a job, without a job in the United States, where people are surprised to find out that there are jobless people. Many people want to come to the United States, but the reality is that there is unemployment here, too. Hasenfus had to go to Nicaragua to get involved in that type of activity, becoming a victim of U.S. policy.

The threat to use U.S. troops continues to loom over the Nicaraguan people. As long as we do not reach an understanding with the United States, as long as we do not normalize relations, that danger will threaten the Nicaraguans' lives and security. This will cause young U.S. men to die. This would cause more deaths and suffering to the Central American peoples.

The U.S. people and the peoples of Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean will continue struggling so wars will come to an end, so the resources now used in the arms race will be used for social programs and economic transformations demanded by the peoples in developing countries.

The best contribution that the U.S. Government, President Reagan, and Congress could make to the Guatemala peace agreements would be to immediately request $270 million in aid to El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Honduras—we are not asking for aid to Nicaragua—to resolve the housing, health, and education problems affecting those peoples, which also affect the Nicaraguan people. That would be a good contribution to peace.

I have addressed you, Latin American and Caribbean brothers, on this date when Veteran's Day is commemorated. However, I am convinced that the day will come when the United States will commemorate the day of veterans who have fought for peace, when the danger and threats of war disappear, when the atomic weapons disappear, and when love prevails in relations among men. We believe this is possible, and we must struggle to make it possible. Thank you. [applause]

Press Club News Conference

PA121901 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 12 Nov 87

[News conference by President Daniel Ortega with unidentified reporters at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.—live; in Spanish with passage-by-passage translation into English]

[Text] [Ortega] Good morning, esteemed journalists. In the brief biographic data we just heard it is noted that I was editor of the newspaper *El Estudiante*. I would like to clarify that this newspaper could not circulate legally. It was considered illegal and was persecuted. When we sold it we had to evade Somoza's police. In those times no one in the United States was concerned about freedom of the press in Nicaragua. Those found distributing that newspaper in Nicaragua were taken to jail and were automatically given a 6-month prison sentence.

I like journalism. I told a *Playboy* reporter when she asked me what I would have liked to do if I had not begun this career of a revolutionary that I would have liked to be a journalist. I also have had experience as a radio journalist in Nicaragua. It was in a radio program whose program director was my father, although the station was owned by other people. We received airtime to do this program, but the program did not last 3 weeks. The program tried to be educational in all aspects. We would give a lesson saying, for example, with A you write Anastasio, assassin. That scared the station owner, and he fired us.

I then worked as a reporter for a radio news program. When I was interviewing a Somoza minister I was surprised to see that when the minister introduced his press official, he was someone I had seen working in Somoza's jails as an executioner and torturer. I then asked the minister: How is it possible that you have an executioner such as this man as your press official? The minister was surprised, but the station's news director was even more surprised. When I returned to the station very proud of my interview the news director told me I was fired. That was press freedom in Nicaragua. In reality there was no press freedom, but who in the United States was concerned about press freedom in Nicaragua at that time?

This is my second visit to Washington, but there is a big difference. In my first visit in September 1979 I had the opportunity to find a reasonable person heading the U.S.

Government, a person willing to talk and hold a dialogue. I met with President Carter. It was a very positive meeting, because we were really laying the groundwork for a future of stable relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

Now the situation is very different. I have always been willing to hold talks with the U.S. President. However, the U.S. President is not willing to hold talks with me. The U.S. President has repeatedly said that whenever we established contacts with the contra leadership—as we have now decided to do through an intermediary to agree on a cease-fire—then the U.S. Government would simultaneously begin a bilateral dialogue with Nicaragua.

Just 2 days before the Guatemala meeting—I think it was on 4 or 5 August—President Reagan and House Speaker Wright made a statement that clearly said the following:

[Interpreter, in English] As part of this negotiating process, the United States shall enter into bilateral dicussions with the governments of the region, including the Government of Nicaragua.

[Ortega] It is then very clear that even 2 days before the Guatemala agreement President Reagan was speaking of a bilateral dialogue with Nicaragua. For this reason I appeal to the U.S. President to keep his word. In other words, [words indistinct]. This is a good opportunity for us to meet here in Washington. I imagine that the President is here in Washington. I have not heard that he is resting at his California ranch. So here I am, willing to meet with President Reagan.

Another point we want to touch on during this visit to Washington... [changes thought] I feel like I am visiting Washington, even though I have not been invited by the U.S. President.

I feel very honored to shake hands with and embrace the wife of Brian Willson, an American fighting for peace who, as we know, lost a leg. I also had the honor of reaching out to priest Roy Bourgeois, who was jailed for promoting civic demonstrations against U.S. policies against Nicaragua here in the United States.

I have insisted that Nicaragua is willing to comply and is complying with the Guatemala accords; that the Central American presidents are also willing to comply; and that verification and follow-up must be the task of the international commission, because we Central American presidents did not mandate the U.S. Government to verify and follow up on compliance with the accords in our 7 August agreement.

We established a commission, and this is known by all. We hope the United States will respect the implementation of the accords. The U.S. President should not make his own assessments, because the U.S. Government is directly involved in the destabilization of Central America; it cannot be a judge trying its own case.

This is all I wanted to say about well-known issues that concern the international community. I will not repeat what I said at the OAS yesterday about U.S. violations from 7 August to date, which are preventing agreements from materializing faster. I will now start taking questions.

[Reporter, in English] [Words indistinct] between U.S. and Soviet officials in London, a senior U.S. Administration official said that there were indications that the Soviet leadership is backing away from its ideological commitments with your government. The senior official told a handful of foreign reporters just the other night that the Soviet leadership has pressured you to make peace in Central America and to share power with the opposition. Could we have your comments on these issues and the relationship as it now stands with the Kremlin?

[Ortega] Well, that is totally absurd because, in the first place, our ideological commitment is with the Nicaraguan people and with the Nonaligned Movement. We have a political and ideological commitment. We have no alliance with the Soviet Union, and we are against the Central American and Nonaligned Movement countries being allied with any power. Therefore, in our relations with the USSR, that country has been respectful of those principles of the Nicaraguan revolution. It has supported our policy of nonalignment, political pluralism, and mixed economy. This has been clearly understood in all the meetings I have had with Soviet leaders, and even in communiques that have been made public. During my latest meeting with General Secretary Gorbachev he expressed his full support for the steps taken by Nicaraguan in favor of peace, and he did not condition Soviet cooperation to these steps. The USSR has continued to cooperate with Nicaragua, which is unalterable. We would like the United States to cooperate with Nicaragua in the same way. In other words, the determining factor for the progress made in the peace efforts was the Central American presidents' willingness to sign the agreements on 7 August.

[Reporter, in English] [Words indistinct] power sharing with the contras, no pressures?

[Ortega] No, none at all. In other words, the Soviet leadership and General Secretary Gorbachev would not even think of exerting any kind of pressure on Nicaragua. None of the Soviet leaders I have met—from Brezhnev to Gorbachev—have ever conditioned Soviet cooperation.

[Reporter] I am [name indistinct] from AFP. During your speech to the OAS you denied the Sandinists promised to have democratization in Nicaragua. Does

this mean you are not willing to establish a full democracy? Therefore, what kind of government do you plan to implement under the peace plan?

[Ortega] What I did at the OAS was to read part of the text of the ICJ ruling. I did not say that; the ICJ said it. What the court said is that the U.S. aggression is not justified, even though the United States has made a number of charges against Nicaragua. I insist that in Nicaragua we are building a democracy for the first time. We are building a democracy that is an example, that allows all the social, political, and economic sectors to participate, but that favors the most needy sectors, the majorities.

[Reporter] Mr President, I am [name indistinct] from the Guatemalan paper *El Grafico*. Mr President, yesterday you gave details on the ICJ reasons for not considering as an international treaty the famous telex by the junta, prior to the Sandinist government, dated 12 July, San Jose, Costa Rica, which was sent to the OAS. This obviously is not an international treaty. This document was signed by several Sandinist commanders from that time, including the current Nicaraguan president and the vice president. This document is known as the Plan to Reach Peace and contains a number of...

[Ortega, interrupting] Any questions?

[Reporter] ...points including elections. Yesterday you said this is not an international treaty, or at least it is not considered to be a document signed in good faith or a promise to achieve peace. As you have asked President Reagan to honor his promise, could this not be viewed as a document that many Central American sectors expect is like a promise to be fulfilled by the Sandinist junta existing at that time?

[Ortega] Well, this document shows a political will; this political will has been fulfilled because in November 1984 elections were held for the first time in Nicaragua, with the participation of seven political parties. No one was denied the right to participate in the elections. Democracy, as the document states, also means seeking benefits for all the social sectors, particularly the workers and the peasants. Yesterday, when I read the court's verdict, it was not that I was trying to annul that document—which is a product of political will—but because I wanted the court's verdict to be known, as it clearly states that even if Nicaragua were violating an agreement it would be up to the OAS to say something, and not the U.S. Government on behalf of the OAS. The OAS Charter does not stipulate the use of force as a problem-solving principle. In other words, the use of force by the United States against Nicaragua is not justified, even if Nicaragua were violating an OAS treaty or agreement. What I did was read the exact text; I added nothing, so that everyone would have a clear knowledge of and clearly remember the court's position.

[Reporter] Mr President, I understand Cardinal Obando y Bravo will be here today; I do not know what time he will arrive. Does his visit have anything to do with the cease-fire negotiations [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] Let us wait until the cardinal arrives in Washington; then we will speak to the press.

The next question goes to that journalist, not a journalist but (?one of the men). [laughs]

[Reporter] Mr President, you said Nicaragua is fulfilling the Guatemala agreements 100 percent, but the [U.S.] Administration refutes this. The administration says the release of political prisoners is not enough and that the steps toward freedom of press are not enough. Do you plan to take further steps to fulfill the agreements?

[Ortega] The Central American presidents did not give the [U.S.] Administration the role of evaluating the fulfillment of the agreements. The only sector that can say how the agreements are developing and make a statement in this regard is the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission. The assessment made by the commission in Washington during the past few days is very different from that made by President Reagan. So what President Reagan should do is respect the Guatemala agreement and thus respect what the commission says.

[Reporter] Mr President, Commander Bayardo Arce spoke on 29 October, saying that the suggestion of releasing all [words indistinct] is intolerable and that all crimes cannot be pardoned. You have released almost 1,000 people, but it is said that you are holding 10,000. Are you going to release any more political prisoners?

Arce also said it would be impossible, and, in his own words: Under no circumstances and nowhere will there be a direct or indirect political dialogue with the counterrevolutionary hierarchy. On the television show "Nightline" Alejandro Bendana said Obando y Bravo would be named as mediator in the agreement, but only for a technical discussion, not a political discussion.

The third point is freedom of the press. I do not believe we can be here [words indistinct] allow you to say that there (?was no) previous worry over freedom of the press. Under Somoza—you know this well—*La Prensa* was free to criticize Somoza's government, and it helped your revolution. Chamorro's family helped you and there was no censorship until [words indistinct], but you have closed the newspaper for the past 4 years, even when the press was heavily controlled. What is your position concerning political prisoners, negotiation with the contra hierarchy, and freedom of the press?

[Ortega] Well, regarding the first question, the message of the FSLN National Directorate read by Commander Arce was very clear in that the political dialogue would not take place with the contra leadership. This is a

position the Nicaraguan Government has held for some time. In other words, it was not a new position but a confirmation of a previous position. For your information, in Nicaragua there are approximately 4,300 prisoners including Somozist national guardsmen, counterrevolutionaries, and members of the Army and Interior Ministry who have committed crimes. The Somozist guardsmen have benefited from the pardon in some instances, but there are some notorious criminals who have not benefited and who will not benefit from a future pardon or amnesty.

So let us discuss two groups of prisoners. One group is made up of the Somozist guardsmen who were captured at the time of the fall of the Somoza dictatorship; another group has engaged in counterrevolutionary activity. The number of prisoners in each group has exceeded 2,100 or 2,200. In other words, the number of prisoners does not reach 5,000, and this is verifiable. The Red Cross can verify it; any humanitarian organization can verify it; and the international commission can verify it.

Also, the pardon benefits certain counterrevolutionaries and some former Somozist guards. The pardon will benefit approximately 180 former Somozist guards, over 700 counterrevolutionaries, and 50 out of 450 Armed Forces prisoners who are guilty of various crimes. The amnesty excludes Somozist guards who have perpetrated horrendous crimes against the Nicaraguan people. We should bear in mind that the maximum sentence in Nicaragua is 30 years, the maximum sentence is 30 years, and there is no death sentence. If those people had perpetrated those same crimes in the United States they would not be in prison. They would have already been sent to the gas chamber or they would have been given a lethal injection. In other words, there is no death sentence in Nicaragua, and there will be no death sentence in Nicaragua.

Referring to the newspaper *La Prensa*, I insist the U.S. Government was not really concerned about it. I do not know if any of you were concerned when we were not allowed to express ourselves through the news media. We edited a newspaper, *El Estudiante*, but we were not supposed to do so; it was forbidden. We were sometimes sent to prison for distributing fliers or for distributing that newspaper. I do not know if any of you ever protested about this or if the U.S. Government ever protested about this. Now, however, you protest when someone is arrested in Nicaragua because he has perpetrated a crime. These cases cause an uproar here.

Now, then, the newspaper *La Prensa* was an enterprise; its owners participated in politics. It is true they were anti-Somozists, but they were anti-Somozists tolerated by Somoza. We were anti-Somozists who were not tolerated by Somoza. When I went underground in Managua in 1967 because Somoza's guards were persecuting me the newspaper *La Prensa* published editorials and pages full of articles against the FSLN's struggle. They reported the FSLN's activities because, as a news medium, they could not ignore the FSLN's activities. Furthermore, a report on Sandinist actions helped them sell the newspaper.

It is not true, however, that *La Prensa* was an FSLN mouthpiece; it is not true that *La Prensa* supported the FSLN. On the contrary, it was critical of the FSLN.

In the latter part of 1978, when the Somoza dictatorship was about to fall, *La Prensa* director Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro made certain changes. We contacted him through the Group of Twelve. Before his assassination he was going to attend a Group of Twelve meeting. Mr Chamorro sent a beautiful note to the Group of Twelve. He said he hoped to become number thirteen. He was assassinated, however, and could not become a member of the group.

Another question, please, let us give everyone an opportunity.

[Reporter] Mr President, there have been [words indistinct] meetings at various levels between Nicaragua and the United States [words indistinct].

[Ortega] If the U.S. Government were reasonable [7 second break in reception] and the truth is that nobody supports its policy. No Latin American or Caribbean country, Canada, Europe, or any world country supports its policy. No country approves of this type of policy. Even here in the United States it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain this policy of terrorism against Nicaragua. I believe the best thing to do—and an honorable way out for the U.S. Government—would be to face up to this reality and to effectively support and respect the Guatemala agreement.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Presidents Duarte and Azcona?

[Ortega] I believe that in my meetings with Presidents Azcona and Duarte we have torn down barriers, that is, communications barriers. Since these barriers were torn down we have been generating an atmosphere of trust.

I think that Presidents Azcona and Duarte are really willing to implement the Guatemala agreement. For this reason I am emphasizing President Cerezo's role of starting this dialogue and President Arias' role in helping us to sign this agreement. I paised the willingness of all five Central American presidents, which was decisive for approving this agreement. The proposal could have been very good, but if it had not been for the willingness and firmness of the Central American presidents there would not have been an agreement.

However, what was decisive was the firmness and willingness of Presidents Azcona and Duarte and all the other Central American presidents.

[Reporter] President Ortega, what specifically are you trying to achieve in your meetings with Speaker Wright and what have you agreed upon in those meetings?

[Ortega] We are talking with Mr Wright about the regional situation. We are aware of the interest in achieving peace. Today I will meet with Speaker Wright again. Tomorrow, we hope to announce some decisions to the international community. This is all I can tell you now.

However, I do think that these talks are positive and constructive.

[Reporter] We understand that Cardinal Obando y Bravo will meet with Speaker Wright. I want to know what you expect to achieve with this meeting.

[Ortega] Well, let us wait for the cardinal to arrive in Washington because with these unexpected snow storms... [changes thought] but the weather is good today. The cardinal left Managua at 0645, and we hope that he will be in Washington this afternoon or this evening at the latest.

Let us have a question from a woman reporter.

[Reporter] Where do you expect the talks with the contras to take place—in Costa Rica?

[Ortega] The Guatemala agreement does not allow these talks to be held in any Central American country because all of Central America, including Costa Rica, must take steps to stop those people who may be in their territory from carrying out political activities linked to armed activities against another Central American government.

These type of activities must disappear. Therefore, it would be disadvantageous if this type of meeting were held in a Central American country because such a meeting would go against the spirit of the agreement.

There is another lady reporter here.

[Reporter] From what you said, one of the main reasons for *La Prensa's* closure was that the U.S. Congress gave aid to the contras. I want to know what the United States—the Congress and the people—can do to [words indistinct] and what type of aid would Nicaragua need from the United States. What would you like to see the United States do?

[Ortega] The sooner the U.S. aggression stops, the sooner the agreements will be implemented. As I explained yesterday, *La Prensa* was closed by the U.S. Government. We were not the ones who closed it. We had no intention of doing that. When the $100 million was approved, it meant that it was Congress who closed *La Prensa*. Should Congress commit the crazy act of approving $270 million tomorrow, it would be killing the Esquipulas accords; that is, the Guatemala agreement. We would again be forced to close the political opening we have created. In other words, the United States would be closing the political opening in Nicaragua. But we would always be willing to again create a political opening when circumstances so warranted. So, if the United States is really interested in strengthening democracy in Nicaragua, let it cease the aggression, and everthing will work out fine.

[Reporter] Would you participate in multilateral conversations that included the United States? If you would not participate, then who [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] If President Reagan is willing to participate directly in the Central American peace effort as an interested and involved party, his best gesture would be to also sign the Guatemala agreement. By doing so, the U.S. Government would at once earn the right to take part in the meetings. We have always been willing to maintain contact with the U.S. Government. We have, however, always said that the response given by President Reagan and Secretary Shultz is incorrect. It does not agree with what they have said in previous statements concerning a bilateral dialogue. This is a way to get out of a bilateral dialogue and to talk about a conditioned multilateral dialogue. This means there will be no multilateral dialogue, either.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] I have done nothing but point out facts. Anyone acting the way the U.S. President is acting against a country like Nicaragua—in spite of the ICJ ruling—acting against international law and as an executioner, because he is ordering the killing of the Nicaraguan people—I believe this is the most bitter and the worst kind of violence that could be taking place.

So, I do not see myself as an obstacle the same way that we do not view President Reagan's insults against Nicaragua as obstacles. He launches insults every day; he did it at the United Nations and our delegation there did not walk out. The delegation stayed and listened to President Reagan. We do not close our ears. We are not afraid of listening.

On the other hand, the U.S. delegation reacted by walking out.

On Monday, President Reagan insulted Nicaragua and acted as a self-appointed god. Foreign Minister D'Escoto was there. He was patient. He is more patient than Job. He listened to the insults. He did not get up and leave. The United States uses insults and Nicaragua uses truth. There are other differences: Nicaragua does not refuse to listen or to talk, but the U.S. Government refuses to talk and listen.

[Reporter] First, you are saying you want to find a regional [words indistinct] with the Central American countries and the United States to discuss security in Central America. Second, it was a bit confusing when

you spoke about the number of political prisoners. Initially you mentioned 300, then [words indistinct]. Besides, how many prisoners will be released if the United States stops the aggression?

[Ortega] There were 2,200 prisoners of each type. In other words, there are slightly more than 2,000 former Somozist guards—let us say 2,000—and 2,000 counterrevolutionaries. In other words, 4,000 in all, and 450 members of the Army and the Interior Ministry. [coughs] Some water, please. The pardon will benefit 9 percent of the 2,000 former Somozist guards: 180 former Somozist guards. It will also benefit 35 percent of 2,000 counterrevolutionaries—slightly over 700 counterrevolutionaries—and 50 members of the Army and Interior Ministry. Consequently, if we round this off, we will pardon about 1,000 prisoners. Therefore, if we currently have 4,000 prisoners and 1,000 are pardoned, approximately 3,000 will remain. Most of them are former Somozist guards and the rest are counterrevolutionaries, although there is hardly any numerical difference. [sentence as heard] Now, then, what was the other question you asked?

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] Very well, if we have 2,000 counterrevolutionaries and we subtract the 700 who will benefit from this pardon, then approximately 1,300 will remain... [corrects himself] or 1,250 will remain, because some 750 counterrevolutionaries will benefit from this pardon. So, these counterrevolutionaries would benefit from this pardon; meaning practically all those who have been captured since 1981 and whose status is determined by a law passed in 1979. However, between 1979 and 1981 there was little counterrevolutionary activity, so there were few prisoners. If we have 2,000 former Somozist guards and 180 will be released, then 1,820 would be left. That is the first group, the Somozist era group.

This has nothing to do with later counterrevolutionary activity. Those people would not benefit from the amnesty. But, the possibility of a pardon would always remain, because since the beginning of the revolution we have been pardoning former Somozist guards, so there is always the possibility of a pardon. There are a number of Somozist guards who under no circumstances would be pardoned, because they are notorious criminals.

Concerning the multilateral dialogue between the U.S. Government and the Central American governments, I say this is a fraud, a fraudulent answer, because it puts conditions on the dialogue and attempts to disavow the bilateral dialogue as a pre-condition for the multilateral dialogue, and it does not provide the possibility of holding the multilateral dialogue. [sentence as heard] If the willingness to hold multilateral talks exists, why is this opportunity being wasted? The question here is of saving lives in Central America, of stopping the blood flowing in Central America, of preventing women and children from dying. Why prolong the suffering, if the willingness exists? If what Secretary Shultz, if what President Reagan is saying is true, what are they waiting for, why don't they meet with the Central American foreign ministers who are here now in Washington? If he [Reagan] had at that time announced: I am meeting with the Central American foreign ministers, and Foreign Minister D'Escoto is here—he has not left Washington—then D'Escoto would have taken part in such a meeting. Or if Secretary Shultz wants to hold a dialogue with Foreign Minister D'Escoto, D'Escoto is also ready to talk with Secretary Shultz. If we are all here, why not talk? Why not hold the talks instead of saying that there will be talks? The U.S. position is thus false, it is inconsistent.

[Cabrera] Commander, Luis Cabrera from Radio Sandino. We would like to know about the present counterrevolutionary activity in Nicaragua. What has been the result of the military operations you announced last Thursday in the zone where the unilateral cease-fire decreed by the government was lifted? [13-second station break]

[Interpreter, in English] The question was about the current status of the military situation of the contras in Nicaragua, especially after the operations announced last Thursday, and about the fact that the contras tried to enter the OAS yesterday through being invited by another delegation, as they were with [words indistinct].

[Ortega] I learned about this action, but all of the Latin American and Caribbean nations closed ranks, and none of them accepted their presence. So, they had to remain outside. This shows the position held by Latin America and the Caribbean, which is one of firm rejection of an aggressive policy and of support for a peaceful solution.

On 7 November, after 30 days of the unilateral cease-fire, we began some operations. But of course since I had announced on 5 November that on 7 November we would resume operations, and the contras do not control a single inch of territory in our country—they just wander around, always depending on the support of their camps in the neighboring countries—they immediately evacuated the cease-fire zone. They stampeded from the cease-fire zone because they cannot afford massive combat; they know they will not be able to resist our operations. So, the operations are continuing now against these forces; some of the forces are in the territory and some others are returning to their camps. What the U.S. Government is doing is supplying them with more sophisticated weapons to make up for the lack of personnel, because they have far fewer people than they had 2 years ago. They have approximately 6,500 people. In other words, they are being given the Israeli missiles, and this is truly irresponsible because these missiles are not only a threat to civil aviation in Nicaragua but also a threat to international air traffic in all of Central America. These rockets may, at any time, fall into the hands of other groups in Central America. We know the contras do not have too much control of their weapons. We also know they tend to sell some of them because they have more weapons than men.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] How many prisoners have been pardoned in El Salvador?

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] Is that all? Well, the truth is that each Central American country has very individual situations. Even though it was not President Duarte's wish, Human Rights Commission President Mr Anaya was murdered a few days ago. Other crimes were committed immediately after that incident. Naturally, those crimes are committed by sectors opposed to peace. Many prisoners have been murdered in El Salvador, and that is the reason the number of prisoners released is so small. A similar situation came up in Guatemala, where, against President Cerezo's wishes... [changes thought] the truth is that the reports by the Human Rights Commission are public knowledge.

In Nicaragua we have tried to protect the lives of the prisoners, and we have a very special situation. There was a revolution there that ousted Somoza's dictatorship [5-second break in reception] that punished the Somozist guards, and this is a question of justice. We have a new situation following the victory of the revolution—the counterrevolution, promoted by the U.S. Government. Thus, we must provide answers according to these facts. Therefore, some governments cannot bring back the prisoners that are missing or murdered and pardon them now. In Nicaragua, we cannot pardon this group of Somozist guards who were involved in activities prior to 1981. The state amnesty is for those who have been imprisoned since 1981 and who are covered by the law issued in 1979. This is in the spirit of the Guatemala accords.

[Moderator] I'd like to thank you very much, Mr President. I know your next appointment is coming up. To you, as we have to the other presidents of the countries involved in the accord, I would like to present you [words indistinct] and, in some cases, it will actually be the foreign ministers from El Salvador, Honduras [words indistinct] this is something I learned during the event.

Wright Meeting Comments

PA122255 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1938 GMT 12 Nov 87

[News conference held by President Daniel Ortega with unidentified reporters following meeting with U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Jim Wright "at noon today in Washington"—recorded; in Spanish with passage-by-passage translation into English]

[Text] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We had a second work session with Speaker Wright. It has been a very constructive work session. We continued discussing the issue of peace in Central America, the Guatemala agreements, and specifically the issue of the cease-fire. Tomorrow we will announce here in Washington the Nicaraguan Government's official stand, a specific proposal.

[Reporter] Are you ready to comply fully with the Guatemalan agreements?

[Ortega] Yes, definitely yes.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] You must be a little patient and wait a few hours until tomorrow.

[Reporter] Why do we have to wait until tomorrow?

[Ortega] Because we are putting the finishing touches on all of this. We want the proposal to be a realistic one and an effective one, and we want the cease-fire to be a reality. [Words indistinct] I will meet with Senator Byrd, but this has not been confirmed yet.

[Reporter] When did you learn that [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] Tomorrow you will learn all about this.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Speaker Wright?

[Ortega] He is very concerned about the Central American situation. A few days before the Guatemala meeting Speaker Wright sent me a message from himself and President Reagan that showed there is an interest in contributing to the peaceful resolution of the Central American conflict. Thus, it is normal that we meet here in Washington with the speaker of the House.

[Reporter] Has this meeting been constructive?

[Ortega] Of course.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct] After this second meeting, do you think a dialogue with the U.S. Administration is possible?

[Ortega] That is not on our agenda. We are willing to hold a dialogue with the Americans. However, this depends on the U.S. Government. It really does not depend on Nicaragua.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] No, we have not discussed that subject. We discussed the main aspects concerning peace in Central America, in accordance with the Guatemala document.

[Reporter] Will this be a joint announcement tomorrow?

[Ortega] Be patient, be calm. We will see you. Later on, Thursday afternoon or evening, you will learn of the time and place of the announcement.

Cuban Adviser Kills Woman, Injures Colleagues
PA121650 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Communique issued by the Public and International Relations Directorate of the Interior Ministry in Managua on 11 November]

[Text] The Interior Ministry reports to the Nicaraguan people that at 0030 on 11 November, Jose Elias Maldonado Gonzalez, a Cuban adviser at the Nicaraguan Institute of Fisheries in Bluefields, threatened to explode a fragmentation grenade after an argument with Yamileth Chang Pineda, his common-law wife. Maldonado Gonzalez was drunk.

Members of the Cuban mission in Bluefields went to the site of the incident to try to calm down Maldonado Gonzalez. However, he exploded the grenade, which caused the painful death of Yamileth Chang Pineda and wounded Dr Eduardo Fuentes Rodriguez, chief of the Cuban mission in Bluefields, and Eric Antonio Casa Real and Arelis Lenet, Cuban public health experts, all of whom are in serious condition.

If Maldonado Gonzalez, who is in serious condition and in police custody, survives, he will be turned over to the relevant courts.

The Interior Ministry is investigating how he obtained the grenade.

[Signed] Interior Ministry Public and International Relations Directorate

Managua, 11 November 1987

Communist Party Leader on Democratization
PM111201 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 30 Oct 87 p 10

[Report on interview with Eli Altamirano, Communist Party of Nicaragua secretary general, by Joaquim Ibarz in Managua; date not given]

[Text] "A government of national unity must be formed because it is the only way to achieve peace and to save the country from ruin and disaster," asserts Eli Altamirano, secretary general of the Communist Party of Nicaragua since its foundation 17 years ago.

"If in the national dialogue between the civil opposition parties and the Sandinistas we make progress toward a national agreement capable of bringing together all the forces and uniting them patriotically, this government of national unity will be possible. The country can carry on no longer with the current situation." The 52-year-old Eli Altamirano, who is reviled by the Sandinists and the Trotskiyite extreme left, granted the present interview following the conclusion of the seminar of democratic parties sponsored by the Liberal International, to which the Nicaraguan Communists, who maintain good relations with the USSR and support Gorbachev's "perestroyka," were invited. Antonio Garrigues Walker, chairman of the seminar, commented that Altamirano, who invited him to dinner at his home, was an "honest and responsible politician who considers only Nicaragua's welfare."

[Ibarz] Do you believe the Sandinists will carry out the provisions of Esquipulas II concerning the democratization of Nicaragua?

[Altamirano] There are plenty of reasons for having many doubts about the handling of the dialogue and the implementation of the Esquipulas agreements. Experience shows us the Sandinist Front's incorrect, irregular, and irresponsible handling of its own agreements. Those who govern have very great fears about the implementation of the agreements.

[Ibarz] Do you trust the steps toward opening up taken so far by the government?

[Altamirano] The steps taken have served solely as indicators to show their readiness to comply. However, the spirit of one-sidedness that has prevailed in the implementation of some of these measures, such as the cease-fire, has aroused considerable skepticism among the political forces. The doubts and fears we harbor about the Sandinists' true intentions are justified.

[Ibarz] Do you feel confident that the FSLN accepts the democratization of Nicaragua?

[Altamirano] The need of a people who want peace is more important than the Sandinists' determination to stay in power indefinitely because the need is so great and the crisis is so vast; it is so imperative for us to stop this war which has destroyed our country; the national economy is so wrecked that we have lost our ability to survive to such an extent; and the situation created is so terrible. There is no way except to comply with Esquipulas II, and to comply means to resolve the major problems posed. Not to comply means to open the door to war and catastrophe, allowing U.S. military power to bring about a spectacular invasion. Those who obstruct Esquipulas will be playing into the hands of the policy of Reagan and those who wish to provoke an unprecedented outbreak of war in Latin America.

[Ibarz] Are you suggesting that the Sandinists are seeking the path of a holocaust, of self-immolation?

[Altamirano] I question the sincerity toward my country, toward democracy, and toward peace of those who close their eyes to the terrible reality of a hungry people who are losing the best of their children.

[Ibarz] Can the national dialogue facilitate a negotiated agreement?

[Altamirano] All parties have been able to unite in an action to save the fatherland. In promoting dialogue we have the difficulty that the FSLN is putting up the opposition characteristic of a ruling party with grave difficulties. We politicians feel optimistic because the civil opposition is displaying great responsibility, believing that any grotesque handling of Esquipulas II would be a terrible attack on Nicaragua's security.

[Ibarz] Are there prospects for pacifying Nicaragua without conducting any kind of negotiation with the "contras"?

[Altamirano] The Nicaraguan Government has signed agreements with the other countries of the region. I believe it will have to implement them if the agreements force it to do so.

[Ibarz] If you talk with any Nicaraguan it is easy to see that his main aspiration is to achieve peace, by any means and with anybody. Could the FSLN turn a deaf ear to that demand?

[Altamirano] The FSLN should respond immediately to that desire of the people, but insofar as obstacles and hindrances are placed in the way it is increasingly ignoring what the Nicaraguans want. The FSLN is keeping going by pure force without heeding a people who want peace and the resolution of their problems.

[Ibarz] Is U.S. aggression alone responsible for this disaster?

[Altamirano] Both Reagan and our government, which has been unable to establish some order, are responsible. Our leaders have perpetrated waste, embezzlement, mismanagement, and malevolent policies. This is a small country; we all know each other and everything is known.

[Ibarz] Is there also corruption?

[Altamirano] There is increasing corruption and at all levels.

[Ibarz] How do you explain all these mistakes in a revolutionary party?

[Altamirano] When a party is consolidated in power and when well-founded principles do not prevail and are not fully defined, it is very difficult not to lose sight of the fact that power is a mere instrument for effecting the economic, political, and social transformations which the country needs. But the impression exists that the FSLN has taken power as a personal possession which it is using as if it were a private estate. The main leaders have gone so far that their associates have seized the country itself. In that way corruption has increased alarmingly.

[Ibarz] What does a veteran Marxist-Leninist leader feel when he hears people complain that there is a communist regime in Nicaragua?

[Altamirano] What there is here is a caricature of communism, without any of the advantages of a socialist regime. This regime discredits the left.

Panama

Abadia Comments on 'Sedition,' 'Meddling'

PA130356 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1832 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Speech by Foreign Minister Jorge Abaida Arias at OAS General Assembly in Washington, D.C., on 12 November—live or recorded]

[Text] Mr President, distinguished delegates, Mr Secretary General, Mr Assistant Secretary General: Mr President, the Government of the Republic of Panama congratulates you for the wise decision of choosing you to preside over this 17th period of sessions of the OAS General Assembly. In the current Latin American situation the Costa Rican Government's contributions to the cause of Central American peace places it on the front line in the joint Latin American and Caribbean efforts to preserve and consolidate the independent and sovereign identity of our nations and for the full recognition of our peoples' right to development. In this context, the Panamanian delegation warmly congratulates you and wishes you success in your endeavor. At all times, in everything that leads to a better definition and a more prompt realization of our peoples' aspirations, Your Excellency will always have our firm support and our full cooperation.

Our cordial greetings and recognition to Ambassador Joao Clemente Baena Soares for his praiseworthy work as secretary general. We reiterate our convictions that the best way to support him is by closely following his advice on our organization's financial crisis.

Had it not been for the serene courage and an understanding of the regional situation that made it possible for the Arias plan to culminate in the Esquipulas accord; had it not been for the willingness of solidarity and unity for peace and common progress that gave life to the Contadora Group and encouraged its perseverance, strengthened its nature, and increased the scope of its significance and projections with the establishment of the Support Group; had it not been for all these clear signs that outlined a new hemispheric action, Panama would have come here discouraged and hurt. Panama saw its hopes—harbored 39 years ago with the establishment of this organization—renewed 10 years ago when

we made the organization a witness and a guardian of the fulfillment of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 and of the treaty on the permanent neutrality of the canal.

Panama comes to this assembly today with great hopes, but also with serious concerns and very grave warnings. The nature and dimensions of these warnings have direct, basic, and vital influences on the reason for the OAS, the reason for its charter, as well as for the reasons and goals of today's OAS meeting. In its international behavior and its international commitments, the Panamanian Government has a tradition of being recognized as a serious nation. Based on this recognition, I listed before the 42d UN General Assembly the moral and economic aggressions against Panama and I outlined the possibility that these aggressions might worsen, becoming dark heralds of a military aggression. The actions I spoke of clearly constitute a violation of basic norms of international law, a threat to peaceful coexistence and reciprocal respect in international relations.

Mr President, on behalf of the Republic of Panama, I come before this assembly with the sorrowful mission of informing you of the moral and economic aggressions that continue against Panama, which have been carefully planned within an overall strategy that has been unscrupulously organized and launched, sparing no expenses or procedures.

In its organization, development, and tactics, the subversive movement that emerged in my country has sinister similarities with general guidelines and details of action outlined in a manual of psychological operations in guerrilla warfare that was presented at the United Nations 3 years ago and has now been adapted to the Panamanian situation.

In 1980, public statements made by work groups of influential U.S. conservative political sectors singled out Panama as a center of subversion. They pointed to the Panamanian military leadership as unadvisable for the U.S. national security interests, and they pointed out that the Torrijos-Carter Treaties were a dangerous mistake that had to be definitely resolved as soon as possible. With premeditation, they described the Panamanian Government as an extreme leftist dictatorship, brutally aggressive, and contrary to the strategic interests of U.S. national security. They recommended that if the Torrijos-Carter Treaties failed, the Panama Canal should be placed under the protection of the Inter-American Defense Board to ensure that the nations of this hemisphere have regular and free access to the Pacific and Atlantic. They said that in this way, by allocating the Panama Canal responsibilities to the Rio Treaty signatories, who would in turn designate the Inter-American Defense Board as their agent, the Panama Canal problem would be handled at an appropriate and strategic level.

Before continuing, I must say that these are not my own words. They are expressions literally taken from public and official documents that form the basis for the current policies that are applied in some of our countries and that include one entitled: A New Inter-American Policy for the 1980's. Its authors did not bear in mind that there was a new conscienceness in America and that our peoples would realize that if these plans regarding the Panama Canal were carried out the vast natural resources of the region would be endangered and eventually become a threat to their own condition as independent and sovereign states.

The psychological operations manual to which we have referred, Mr President, has been used to try to break an alliance of 2 decades between the people and the Panama Defense Forces in order to overthrow the government, dissolve the Panamanian Constitution, and turn Panamanian territory into not only a docile and obedient enclave, but a center for activities aimed at undermining the continent's peoples' right to self-determination and independence.

Let us see what these instructions are and what has happened. Let us see the results of the evidence of the condemnable means that have been used by certain U.S. Government sectors in their unscrupulous and arrogant blindness against a materially weak country such as Panama. One must create a negative image of the Panamanian Government; one must stain the reputation of the leaders with crimes that can shake the social sensibility; one must point out the military men as cruel and corrupt people; one must point out the government as a band of thieves; one must link them to the international mafia and to international communism; one must stress the bad use of public funds by accusing them all; and one must insult them and make them lose respect. This is how the sinister campaign began, which led to the unfortunate events that took place in June 1987 in my fatherland.

Regarding the appointment of a commission to investigate the crime concerning Dr Hugo Spadafora, President Nicholas Ardito Barletta, in a letter sent to the Attorney General on 22 September 1985, stated, I quote: As you know, the Constitution and the law, which I swore to uphold as president, do not allow me to be involved in this, because the investigation of crimes is up to the Attorney General's Office, unquote.

Afterwards, that invisible army that has been armed by Panama's enemies would make it seem that Ardito Barletta resigned because of alleged pressures, because he wanted to appoint a commission, which he himself clearly stated was outside his constitutional authority. The beginning of the campaign was fundamentally aimed at discrediting the Armed Forces and its leadership, who today represent the surest defense of the national liberation process initiated by General Omar Torrijos. The military command is the main obstacle for those who want to establish a colonial regime in Panama.

Our commitment to perfect the democratic process born from our needs and aspirations has been widely proven by the measured, tolerant, and patient way in which Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle has managed the crisis. He has shown his patriotism by respecting the Panamanian laws and norms that guarantee human rights.

I will recount how sedition is created in a member country of this organization under the sponsorship and with moral and material support of decisive and powerful sectors of the government of another state that is also a member of this organization and that is also bound by its principles and norms.

The year 1985 was propitious for exploiting the good faith and naivete which accompany the honesty of the great anonymous mass comprising the American people. It was a propitious time to begin manipulating public opinion, thus preparing it to accept offensive actions which negatively compromise U.S. prestige in the eyes of the world. The psychological warfare manual warns that human beings must be considered as the priority target in a political struggle, and the most critical point in a human being—thus conceived—is his mind. The manual explains that once a human being's mind has been controlled, the political animal has been defeated and there is no need for violence. The manual also has specific instructions to the effect that the minds of all the people—crusading forces, military forces, and the civilian population—are the main target.

Thus, supported by the prestige of great newspapers which are known throughout America for traditional honesty and truthfulness, there began a systematic campaign to undermine the reputation of key figures in Panama's political leadership. The offensive and slanderous items published were always based on alleged reliable sources, meaning invisible government officials or former government officials who requested that their names be withheld—or else confidential reports which circulated in Congress but which no one could assert he had seen. Thus, a guilty sentence was systematically prepared without ever presenting proper evidence, and the statements issued by the political opposition sectors in Panama were used as irrefutable truth. These statements, in turn, supported the slanderous reports issued by the news media, claiming that the information had been published in the U.S. news media and supplied by official U.S. sources. Within this sinister game of publishing rumors en masse from two ends—the axis being the plot against Panama—an invisible army began to build a fictitious Panama based on its own fabrications using careful outlines so that it could provoke loathing and rejection among the largest possible number of Panamanians and people from the United States.

Allow me, Mr President, to make note at this point of a timely commentary which refers to the encouraging new awareness that is growing and consolidating itself in our continent. Our people have begun to realize that they have to choose and defend their own truth and reject the false truths that they themselves ascertain on a daily basis. In May 1986, inconceivable publications and a landslide of falsehoods and slander marked the beginning of a battle for the Panamanian and U.S. peoples' minds. We were protected by our own truth, but the U.S. people were defenseless because they did not have access to any information except that being supplied by an army of liars on the warpath against Panama. A carefully detailed plan was then carried out through false organizations that have been exerting control by implementing internal tactics—through meticulously trained persons—calculating the time when a united front would be formed for mobilizing the masses. The plan sought to overthrow a legally appointed government and replace it with a de facto regime.

Citizens whose reputation had been established in all sectors of our national territory were the choice recruits. They were recruited initially as part of an allegedly apolitical and harmless movement which sought to rescue our society and morals. They would gradually be led to the real goal—a great redeeming crusade—and taught the most modern persuasion and propaganda techniques. These people would then spread the corruption to include more and more people, and prepare the creation of a united front. The people who would begin the proselytizing activity were chosen according to specific views and on the basis of their knowledge of the students' way of thinking when it involved schools and universities; their familiarity with the problems and mental limitations of each union when it involved infiltrating labor unions; and their understanding of human feelings, passions, and hopes when it involved recruiting persons who had leadership abilities or forming leaders who could initiate mobilizations in the shortest time possible. Their incentive, the permanent source of encouragement, was a statement included in the psychological warfare manual that reads, quote, when internal subjective control has been developed in parallel with other activities, any leader will be able to shake the government structure, unquote.

A massive and systematic task was simultaneously being carried out to exacerbate political sensitivity and to relate all governmental actions to all aspects of society—so even the most intimate problems would be unconsciously related to governmental activity, and any potential hatred or discontent or natural antipathy or spontaneous hostility could be poured against the authorities, against the government.

Mechanisms of immediate reaction were introduced in a sector of the population by means of a premeditated system of forming groups and by means of a scientifically elaborated vocabulary, giving words a different meaning from what they really have. This gradually changed the meanings of words, used extremely intelligent sophistries, and never deeply explained things. The purpose was to make words such as democracy, justice, freedom, human rights, morals, Christian conscience, societal

activity, resistence, and crusade immediately evoke the desired reactions. These words were supposed to evoke a rejection of civilian authority and a rejection of the Panama Defense Forces. They are also supposed to evoke the desire to change the government, projecting the change as an imperious individual need, a noble purpose, and a superior mission.

They formed discussion groups, retreats, and meetings of people with similar activities. These were formed using various pretexts, running the whole gamut from intellectual curiosity to the desire for more social contacts. They even used pseudomystical and occult sects. Thus they established beachheads and the capability for group mobilization in associations, clubs, and political parties. The objective was to create national awareness of a false reality, to gain the acceptance of an organized lie and, with a profound knowledge of subversion tactics, to undermine all strata of society and prepare an insurrectional type mobilization that could paralyze the national economy.

As the seditious contagion spread, the vocabulary adapted to it, to make it more appealing to U.S. public opinion. They started to disseminate words in everyday speech that in earlier times were used infrequently, only when it was necessary, words such as civil freedoms, due process, and human rights. To Panamanians, freedom of thought is a secular custom deeply rooted in our history and in our existence. We call the lack of due process simply injustice or the negation of justice. We have called violations of human rights abuse for a long time, before this expression became the vogue. To us, civil freedoms have always meant individual guarantees.

The main audience, however, was not the Panamanian people, it was the U.S people, Congress, the international community, and some sectors of the foreign communications media. It is sad and shameful to have to admit that a considerable number of Panamanians joined the ranks of the army that for several years has been strictly tailoring its actions and its words to the demands of psychological warfare.

It is a hopeful sign, however, that the majority of Panamanisn turned their backs on them when this army tried to convince the people that what they were doing was for protection, and not for their own gain; that their excesses were the result of a democratic movement and that their superior mission justified these excesses because the final objective of the insurrection was a free and democratic society. This society would be one in which such actions would no longer be necessary. This group of people tried to convince people that the attacks against the national economy were necessary due to the current system of oppression and that this would be repaired when the forces of justice assumed control.

The lack of scruples and the must inhumane ambition on the part of the members of the conspiracy even led them to resort to forging documents, to lead others to believe the national government was going to change its monetary system. This irresponsible action tried to cause panic in the financial center and to destroy the national economy.

We see today that they were successful in dividing our country, but that division is between Panamanians who defend the patriotic truth of national liberation and those Panamanians who, having failed in their attempt, have gone out onto the streets of the world to shout lies, lies which the forces of reaction and fascism gather up, to echo their remarks. But that minority attempting to deliver the destiny of the fatherland to foreign interests still has a great capacity to do harm. The lesson we Panamanian are learning today is what I am now explaining so no other sister country will ever have to endure it.

Mr President, aside from all I have said, I want to call the attention of this assembly to other aspects of the aggression which has been orchestrated against Panama. If we are signatories of a letter that defines the principles and norms which must regulate the relations between American states, it is not possible that one of the member states of the organization unilaterally and capriciously will interpret those principles and those norms because this introduces an extremely dangerous element for the continent's peaceful coexistence.

At the OAS Permanent Council and UN General Assembly, Panama presented a long list of actions that constitute intervention in our internal affairs. We will never forget the support received from our sister countries. Again, we refer to our charges because there are those who persist in meddling in our internal affairs, with so-called justified allegations. I ask myself, moreover, if it is not a grave danger for the member states that there is currently in the U.S. Congress a draft bill called the Law of Democracy in Panama in 1987 bill, wherein requirements are established that the Panamanian Government must fulfill for it to be acceptable to that congress.

Does any country need the approval of another country's congress to exist? Can the congress of one country impose a change of government in another country? Mr President, I trust that—taking into consideration the difficult situation prevailing in my country—this assembly will understand the briefness of the Panamanian statements concerning another problem we share.

Nevertheless, we cannot overlook matters that are extremely important for the region and deserve our priority attention: The right to peace within and beyond our borders is the most important right of every nation, every sovereign and independent state. The results attained by the Governments of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica should not be assessed by other countries based on anything else but the common goal of all our people on the American continent—to coexist peacefully and without threats. We

welcome the efforts made by the five Central American presidents, who, overcoming problems and obstacles, have courageously and tenaciously taken on the task of achieving peace and cooperation. The Esquipulas II agreement opens new hopes and perspectives, and advocates a new atmosphere that will allow the Central American people to continue striving to attain higher levels of peaceful coexistence, economic development, and social development. All those who participate in the peace process are encouraged by the progress achieved in the implementation of the pledges assumed in the agreements. We are sure that the Central American countries will continue to honor their presidents' word, and will continue firm and secure toward the goal that we all hope for.

Referring to the drug trafficking and drug abuse problem, we must realize that the member states of this organization have reached a crossroad. This problem affects the very essence of mankind as a whole and the basic structures of our societies, so all the states have responsibilities and duties—derived from their position within the pathology of this disease. Reviewing the efforts we currently exert to counter drug trafficking and destroy the distribution network established by organized crime, investing considerable amounts that demand sacrifices we have gladly accepted, we must realize that no amount of efforts will be enough until a similar operation is carried out to eradicate the consumption centers that generate the capital to export corruption. That is why we reassert our full support for the Inter-American Commission Against Drug Abuse, and we welcome the progress and performance achieved by the commission.

Mr President, Panama reasserts it firm support and invariable solidarity with Argentina's struggle for sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands, and South Sandwich Islands to be restored and fully recognized. While this century promises to mark the end of colonialism throughout the world, we cannot but see with deep sorrow how certain exceptions prevail in our continent. I also assert Panama's support and solidarity concerning Bolivia's aspirations for a maritime port under its territorial jurisdiction. The Panamanian Government respectfully urges the countries in a position to accelerate this highly important step to exert their sovereign rights with generosity and nobleness.

Panama joins the continental clamor against the heavy burden of the foreign debt's payments and the dangers that the postponement of just solutions entails for the development and consolidation of democratic institutions. Thus, we urge this organization to advocate the adequate procedures for holding a special general assembly of inter-American cooperation for development—which we have been postponing for quite a time.

Earlier in my address to this assembly, which has extended beyond the usual time for reasons that have been duly explained, I referred to the new awareness that has risen in the Latin American and Caribbean nations. Within this awareness, the most important thing that awakens all our hopes is the willingness to coexist on an equal basis as states, and to help and serve each other as equals. The crisis withstood by Panama is part of that equality crisis that the brother member nations in this organization have appropriately countered and turned into a joint victory. Panama has chosen the road it will take at this crossroads with enthusiasm, courage, determination, and faith. We know that this is the road chosen by all the people on the American continent, and we know that the forces opposing the achievement of our own goals represent a threat for the future of all the other states in this organization, and for the organization itself.

We invoke the spirit of brotherhood that encouraged Panama to be a member of the Contadora Group and to participate in the altruistic efforts exerted by the Contadora and Support Groups for 5 years; and we urge those who unjustly tried to harm us to understand—for the sake of Americanism—that each nation has its own destiny, and its children have the right to forge this destiny. No action beyond our borders—no matter how well-intended it may be—can be acceptable if it is imposed on us. Let us work together, struggle together, and suffer together; but let us never try to impose our experience—good or bad—on another brother country. If we try to do this, then mankind has failed. [applause]

OAS Envoy Berates U.S. 'Interventionism'

PA121545 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Statement by Roberto Leyton, Panamanian ambassador to the OAS; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] We are now facing a stage at which we are struggling against those forces that do not want Panama to accomplish its goal. It has been a very difficult process. There are Panamanians who for reasons rooted in the past are used to having the former U.S. governor at the canal make decisions. The descendants of those people are perhaps the ones who wish to let others, the United States, decide Panama's fate.

I believe it is important to point out that Panama is facing serious domestic political problems and that there is a true political polarization in Panama. However, that is a normal process faced by every country, which is fine. I believe that within the opposition, there are some people who have mantained an authentic, correct, and honest position for many years but who do not share the views of the governments since 1968. Nevertheless, I believe the element that frustrates Panama's interests—thinking about Panama as the fatherland rather than as a government—is interventionism, which is clearly expressed in a recent U.S. Senate resolution. This resolution specifically tells Panama what status it should have as a nation. Our position on this is held not only by Panama or the Panamanian Government. This is a position subject to the consideration of the OAS member

states, and in a historic resolution on 1 July an overwhelming majority—by 17 votes in favor and 1 against, the U.S. vote—the member states demanded that states abide by the conduct stipulated in international treaties, particularly in the OAS Charter, and that states abstain from carrying out actions contrary to those outlined in the OAS Charter. This refers in particular to the principle of nonintervention, which should be respected. The resolution also notes the international community's desire to have the U.S. fulfill the letter and spirit of the canal treaties. As you know, there is a protocol on the neutrality of the canal that most countries have adhered to—and little by little more countries are signing it, because the international community wants neutrality in the Panama Canal as a benefit to all countries, which is the canal's purpose.

1988 Budget, Effect of U.S. Aid Cut Discussed

PA121915 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Legislator Rigoberto Paredes, president of the Legislative Assembly Budget Commission, has said large cuts will be made in next year's budget:

[Begin recording] During the coming year, we will have a reduced budget. You, the newsmen, will see how each cabinet minister or agency director will begin protesting over the cuts made by the Planning Ministry. As the planning minister has explained, this is because we are experiencing a very difficult year. We are experiencing an economic crisis, and this has led the Planning Ministry to make these cuts. [end recording]

Regarding the Panamanian Government's dependence on U.S. aid and the consequences of a suspension of such aid, Paredes said:

[Begin recording] This is precisely the reason for the cuts. Adjustments had to be made in the budget to balance it. This way we will not depend on such items as grants from AID, for instance. Since AID has suspended its grants and support, we can no longer count on them. You ask why we are making requests to them and at the same time reproaching them. We will continue to accuse the U.S. Government of economic aggression. This will not change.

However, this does not mean our two countries do not form part of a partnership—the Panama Canal. The United States has reaped enormous benefits from the canal, and we have received very little. Therefore, Panama's complaints are just. The fact that we publicly raise these complaints and condemn the economic aggression does not mean we are waiving or renouncing our rights. We want our relations with the United States to be friendly. It seems the United States is doing everything possible for this not to be so. Panama will continue to insist on and demand our rights with the dignity demanded by our status as a sovereign nation. [end recording]

Argentina

$500-Million Loan Disbursement Received

PY130014 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2318 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Nov (TELAM)—Tonight, the economy minister reported that a $500-million disbursement of a bridge loan was received today.

It was reported that the U.S. Government; a group of European central banks acting through the International Bank of Settlements; and the Colombian, Mexican, and Uruguayan central banks are involved in the bridge loan.

Alfonsin Reportedly To Confirm Sourrouille

PY112356 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2032 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Nov (NA)—President Raul Alfonsin will "expressly confirm" Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille in his post during a news conference that Alfonsin will hold next Saturday at the Olivos residence.

This news leaked out today from congressional sources who stated that the chief executive will take advantage of the news conference to expressly confirm Sourrouille as the government's chief economic policymaker.

The sources did not state whether Alfonsin will use part of the news conference to ratify the economic policy formulated by Sourrouille or whether this issue will be included in his answers to the questions of the press.

Alfonsin reportedly intends to renew his support for the controversial economy minister at a time when different ruling party and political opposition sectors are making renewed comments on the need to make changes in economic policy.

In the past few days, the press published reports on potential candidates to replace Sourrouille as economy minister. These reports included former Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and Roberto Teodoro Alemann.

Chamber of Deputies President Juan Carlos Pugliese contributed to the controversy by stating a few days ago that the UCR is giving "critical support" ["un apoyo critico"] to Sourrouille's management.

Given this state of affairs, congressional sources today stated that President Alfonsin intends to expressly confirm Sourrouille's management during a news conference scheduled for next Saturday at the Olivos residence.

It was also leaked out yesterday that at the news conference it is quite possible that Alfonsin will insist on the government's proposal to enact constitutional amendments.

At the news conference the chief executive will reportedly discuss the government's proposal to enact constitutional amendments to permit the direct election of the Argentine president, the dissolution of the electoral board—which is currently in effect—and the creation of the post of prime minister.

In addition, the head of state will reportedly take advantage of his Saturday news conference to confirm once again that he does not intend to seek reelection, and that for this reason the proposed constitutional amendment does not personally concern him "at all."

Government sources have stated that the new text of the Constitution, which will reportedly be discussed by Alfonsin during the Saturday news conference, is already in the hands of the president. This new text of the Constitution was sent to the president by Carlos Santiago Nino, the coordinator of the Council for the Consolidation of Democracy [Consejo para la Consolidacion de la Democracia].

Nino reportedly conveyed to the president the opinion and view of the Council for the Consolidation of Democracy during an unscheduled meeting they held last night at Government House.

The news conference that Alfonsin will hold next Saturday—the third since he was inaugurated in December 1983—will begin at 1000 at Olivos. It is estimated the news conference will last 1 and 1/2 hours.

According to an official announcement made yesterday, the news conference will not be restricted to just a few issues. It will be broadcast live to the entire country over the domestic service.

Army Chief of Staff Meets With Leadership

PY130134 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1524 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Nov (NA)—This morning Army Chief of Staff General Dante Caridi held a scheduled meeting with all active duty generals to review yearly activities, report on the new transfers and assignments of the Army leadership, and complete the preparations for the meeting of Latin American Army leaders scheduled to begin next Monday in Mar del Plata.

The Army leadership meeting began at 0800 and the discussions on different areas began immediately. The success achieved in training in 1987 was reviewed and the main goals for 1988 were outlined.

It is assumed that during the meeting, which is scheduled to end tomorrow with the attendence of Defense Minister Horacio Juanarena, the Army's modernization will be one of the main topics to be reviewed.

The Army's modernization effort involves redrafting the defense law and expediting the studies on the duties and the jurisdiction of each branch of the Armed Forces. This will permit appropriate budget allocations in order to ensure the required equipment modernization.

It is also assumed that this week Gen Caridi officially reported on the new chain of command, following the retirements implemented in 1987.

An important part of the discussions will be dedicated to elaborating on the proposals that the Army will raise at the conference of Latin American armies. At the conference, the role of the military in the struggle against drug trafficking and against subversive movements will be reviewed.

New Federal Police Leadership Installed

PY102345 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1548 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Nov (DYN)—In a ceremony held at the Golden Hall of the Federal Police headquarters, Federal Police Chief Juan Pirker today installed the newly appointed Federal Police leadership.

The following is a list of the newly appointed police commissioners and police inspectors, as well as their respective departments [superintendencias]:

Police commissioners Jorge Horacio Almejun, administrative superintendant; Donato Luciano de Cesare, legal affairs; Carlos Alberto Moyano, planning; Alberto Jesus Borsalino, interior; Horacio Oscar Casale, personnel; Guillermo Ricardo Mongiardino, firemen; and Martin Zacarias Lotocki, communications.

Police inspectors Roberto Antonio Manfredi, social security superintendant; Luis Roque Schiavilla, police institutes; Nicolas Pellicari, technical department; Rodolfo Oscar Lopez, dangerous substances; Juan Carlos Camani, general secretariat; Adolfo Vicente Reboredo, metropolitan security; Bacilio Bohdano Peretiatko, railroad security; and Raul Oscar Acosta, investigations.

Explosives Depot Destroyed at Naval Arsenal

PY102043 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1408 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 10 Nov (NA)—The Maintenance Department of the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base today officially reported that an explosives depot of that naval base blew up on 8 November, causing considerable damage, but no casualties.

The report indicates that "any possibility of intentional damage" has been discarded. The explosion occurred 23 km from this city and caused great alarm in the nearby city of Punta Alta.

According to the report the military depot contained explosives, 120 mm noise bombs, 12.70 shotguns shells, flares, and smoke bombs.

The official communique released by the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base Maintenance Department reports that "at approximately 1000 on 8 November an explosion, which is being investigated, occurred in the explosives depot of the Puerto Belgrano arsenal."

The communique adds that "the fire caused by the explosion has been put out. Personnel were not affected and an investigation is being conducted. According to preliminary reports, any possibility of arson has been completely discarded."

Reports from witnesses indicate that Navy units and fire fighters from Bahia Blanca and Punta Alta put out the fire, which caused considerable damage.

Bolivia

Acting Minister Cited on Antidrug Aid

PY121431 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Acting Foreign Minister Jorge Valdes said that Bolivia has not received effective support for the antidrug fight so far. He explained that despite the fact that all nations have acknowledged the effort Bolivia has made, the support that our country has received is not as significant as the Bolivian executive branch expected. We believe this is not just a Bolivian problem but an international problem, which calls for the cooperation of all countries, Valdes said, adding that without help, Bolivia will be unable to do what the other nations expect it to do. He explained that the support extended to Bolivia must be more practical.

[Begin Valdes recording] We believe we have received support but not... [changes thought] that is, there is recognition of what Bolivia has done. For the first time in a long period, Bolivia has undertaken a (?serious) program. However, the support that has been extended is not as significant as it should be. This is an international problem, the solution of which calls for an investment of hundreds of millions of dollars. Bolivia cannot solve it by itself, because our weak economy cannot allow us to allocate more funds to fight this scourge of mankind. [end recording]

Vice President Garrett's Nephew Kidnapped

PY130059 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0007 GMT 13 Nov 87

[Text] Santa Cruz, 12 Nov (EFE)—The Bolivian police today confirmed that Jorge Garrett, nephew of Bolivian Vice President Julio Garrett Ayllon, has been kidnapped.

Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran and Bolivian Police Chief General Raul Escobar have come to Santa Cruz in order to follow the investigations into this abduction as well as others that have taken place recently.

According to police sources, the vice president's nephew was seen for the last time on 5 November, as he was heading toward a bank in this city. His kidnapping was denied initially, but was officially confirmed this morning.

The identity of the abductors has not yet been disclosed, and Garrett's family has not been contacted regarding a ransom.

A wave of kidnappings is affecting Santa Cruz. One of those kidnapped is Sergio Romero, son of the YPFB president.

Journalists from Santa Cruz claim that the kidnappers are seeking a ransom of $160,000 for the boy.

Fifteen days ago, Victor Perez, an agro-industrial businessman, was kidnapped in Santa Cruz by a group of masked individuals who initially asked for a $100,000 ransom, then lowered it to $50,000, and finally accepted $10,000.

Due to a large police dragnet, the kidnappers decided to release Perez.

Despite the silence maintained by the police, it is known that an industrialist and businessman named Arce, known as "the stallion Arce," was kidnapped and released after a $100,000 ransom was paid.

Brazil

Sarney Asks Congressmen To Support 5-year Term

PY121824 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1500 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] As the saying goes: If you want something done well, do it yourself. Since all of Sarney's representatives have failed to defend a 5-year term during the debates in the Constituent Assembly, President Sarney has decided to obtain support for the 5-year term himself. He personally called senators and deputies to tell them he wants the 5-year term approved, and to warn them he will break with whomever votes against the 5-year term.

According to government leaders in the Assembly, Sarney's supporters have a slim margin of two votes over those who favor the 4-year term, and this is a very small margin.

Therefore, the situation of the governors, who on 8 November voted for direct elections in 1988, is becoming very difficult. It is rumored that they will present a counterproposal to the Systematization Commission. Nevertheless, they cannot count on the support of the northeastern region governors.

Sarney Postpones November Trip to Colombia

PY130116 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Acting Foreign Ministry spokesman Marco Antonio Diniz Brandao has reported that President Sarney this afternoon talked by telephone with Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas. According to the spokesman, Sarney told his Colombian counterpart that he decided to postpone his 23-25 November trip to Colombia.

Diniz Brandao said no new date has yet been set for Sarney's trip to Colombia. He said President Sarney was asked to postpone the trip because it is advisable for him to stay in the country during the Constituent Assembly sessions.

It has been confirmed, however, that President Sarney will go to Mexico on 26 November to attend the Acapulco summit of Latin American presidents.

Army Minister Returns, Discusses Trip to UK

PY121819 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Nov 87 p 2

[Text] Brazilian Army Minister General Leonidas Pires Goncalves, upon arriving in Brasilia yesterday morning from Europe, said his trip to England was "very constructive." The Army minister denied that the talks he held with British officials were related to Brazilian economic and financial policy. The minister stated that he had "remained within a purely military environment" dealing with military affairs, and that "some progress" had been made.

In this regard, Gen Pires mentioned the possibility that the Brazilian Enterprise Verolme and the British Enterprise Vickers could continue with the program to manufacture a self-propelled gun. He also talked about a joint project between the Brazilian Army and British Aerospace to manufacture high-speed surface-to-air missile [Missil Solo-ar de Alta Velocidade] (MSAAV) According to the minister, he also discussed the possibility of launching in 1988 an exchange program for British and Brazilian officers attending military schools.

Oil Distribution Decision Thought 'Senseless'

PY112313 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Finance Minister Bresser Pereira considers senseless the decision of the Systematization Commission of the Constituent Assembly yesterday approving an amendment that considers the distribution of oil by-products in Brazil to be the exclusive right of Brazilian companies.

The amendment, if approved by the full plenum of the Constituent Assembly, will leave multinational companies regularly operating in Brazil, such as Shell and Esso, out of the Brazilian market.

Bresser Pereira said these multinational companies do not threaten the national sovereignty.

Document Outlines Rightist Conspiracy
PY110206 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Nov 87 p A 6

[By special correspondent in Brasilia Clovis Rossi]

[Text] A document prepared within the military sector-,which was endorsed by at least one of the military ministers, has outlined for the PMDB leadership the two main axes of a conspiratorial strategy by civilian and military sectors. This strategy of the extreme right seeks to demoralize first the military commands and then the civilian leadership to pave the way for a coup d'etat in the medium term.

The contents of the document were explained to Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, President of the PMDB, of the Chamber of Deputies, and of the Constituent Assembly. The document was resuscitated in the past few days because of incidents in the military sector that confirmed the results of the analysis made in the document, which was issued in May 1987.

In fact, three episodes involving military officers represent a challenge to the Army command and a loss of prestige for Army Minister Leonidas Pires Goncalves: The occupation of the Apucarana town hall (Parana State) by a captain and a contingent of his troops; the preparations by officers of the Officers Training School (ESAO), headquartered in Rio, to plant and explode bombs as a protest against what they considered low salaries; and the participation of active duty officers in the so-called Brazilian Association for the Defense of Democracy (ABDD), which is forbidden by military regulations.

The arrest of the captain from Apucarana has partly resolved the first challenge, but the other two remain unresolved. *Folha de Sao Paulo* has learned that state intelligence organizations are certain that at least Captain Jair Bolsonaro, one of the officers involved in the ESAO case, lied to his superiors in denying he had talked to a *Veja* reporter about preparations for the explosion of bombs.

If so, the military authorities will have to punish the captain to prevent the authorities from being discredited. The same is happening in the ABDD incident, although in this case the government believes this organization has no followers and is made up of people reminiscent of a coupist period that has long since been overcome.

According to reports investigated by *Folha*, the ABDD originated when top government and military officials during the last year of the Figueiredo government tried to extend for 2 years the term of the then president. This plan failed, however, because of the indifference and/or resistance of generals who made up the top command. However, the seed remained, and it is apparently being reactivated now.

Military authorities have disregarded these incidents. They assert that the military leadership does not have the slightest intention of interrupting the political process. On the contrary, it is their wish to safeguard the institutions.

The PMDB leadership that is in contact with the military leadership believes this information. However, the more cautious PMDB sectors have secretly developed the following theory: The 1964 Movement [military movement that ousted the civilian government] was not planned in 1964 but years before, in the aftermath of Janio Quadro's resignation, the assumption of power by Joao Goulart, and the military's opposition to the then president.

This theory states that if a military coup has indeed been drafted as stated in the military report, it is obvious that it will bloom fully in the near future, and not now. But to make it viable, it is indispensable to undermine also the civilian leadership, which reassumed the national administration after 20 years of military regime.

However, aside from this almost generally accepted theory, there are disagreements within the PMDB itself regarding the remedies and even a complete comprehension of the political picture.

A party sector—particularly that headed by Senator Mario Covas and Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso, PMDB leaders in the Constituent Assembly and the Senate, respectively—believes that President Jose Sarney is the one responsible for the crisis that is undermining everyone, and consequently they believe the first step to resolve the problem is to remove Sarney from the Presidency as soon as possible.

However, those PMDB members who hold government posts and who are closer to Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes promote another idea: to strengthen Sarney based on the belief that nothing is gained by attacking the president if there is nothing with which to replace him.

Finally, there is Senator Jose Richa (PMDB-Parana State) who upholds an intermediate position and who is merely perplexed by the entire issue when he says: "In 1961 and 1962, there was a clear plot based on a clear strategy which sought to oust the government. But now if there is a plot, the strategy does not seem to be that clear.

They attack the Constituent Assembly as if it were responsible for the crisis, when in truth it is seeking a solution because there is no solution without institutional order."

PFL President Marco Maciel, who also shares this perplexity, is determined to shorten the transition period (that is, the drafting of the constitution and Sarney's term) with the objective of filling at least part of the political vacuum.

However, despite the different diagnoses and perplexities, the truth is that not since at least 1968 has the word "coup" been heard in Brasilia as much as it has in the past few months.

Whether in the form of "a white coup" (a coup headed by Sarney against the Constituent Assembly); a coup against the Constituent Assembly headed by an alleged association of businessmen, Government House, and conservative Constituent Assembly members; a Bordaberry-like government (referring to the Uruguayan situation from 1971 to 1973, when the military governed but placed civilian Juan Maria Bordaberry as president); or a real coup, the truth is that the word coup along with its innumerable variations has been very much present recently.

The seriousness of the situation was confirmed last Friday by Senators Richa and Maciel, who said:

1. "The situation gives cause for concern." Based on government estimates, the inflation rate has again reached double-digit figures (it should total about 12 percent), which is always a destabilizing factor. The business sector is openly challenging the government, as in the case of Autolatina, the "holding" [previous word given in English] that manages the Ford and Volkswagen industries. Salaries are rapidly being undermined by inflation.

2. "The foreign situation is not favorable for Brazil." The agreement on the foreign debt frustrated the PMDB and the PFL and does not resolve anything at all, only old issues (1987) [as published]. Government House itself has information that the U.S. Government will implement retaliatory measures against Brazil in view of the computer industry issue. This will affect the only sector of the economy which is doing well (exports). The strong shake- ups that have affected international stock markets, showing the need to implement readjustments in the U.S. economy, have had a great impact throughout the world and obviously also in Brazil.

3. "There is a widespread political deterioration." There is no need to cite any facts to show that the assessment made by these two senators is true. It suffices to quote a phrase stated this week by Civilian Household Chief Ronaldo Costa Couta to *Folha de Sao Paulo*: "The president is governing under exceptional conditions, both from the domestic and international points of view, and also regarding the executive-legislative branch relationship."

It is true that the majority of politicians and civilian groups agree with this statement. What makes the picture even bleaker is the fact that there is no answer on what to do to stop the crisis.

The fear among rational PMDB sectors is that the lack of fast answers will lead to the implementation of the plan included in the report issued by the military sector 6 months ago, when the national situation was much less critical.

Chile

Foreign Minister Addresses OAS Session

PY101233 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Addressing the 17th OAS regular session, which began this afternoon in Washington, Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia said the human rights issue has been used in a discriminatory fashion in an attempt to create an unfavorable and distorted image of the true Chilean position and situation.

The foreign minister said Chile assigns special importance to this matter and recalled that the government is carrying out the steps established in the Constitution, which was approved by the vast majority of the people, to establish a fully democratic system in the country.

Addressing the OAS assembly, Minister Ricardo Garcia said unrestricted respect for human rights is one of the basic components of the truly free society Chile is trying to establish.

The foreign minister emphasized that our country repudiates human rights violations. He said that, in addition to condemning systematic human rights violations in certain parts of the world, Chile advocates the implementation of measures to prevent any situation that might lead to human rights violations anywhere.

Minister Garcia recalled that terrorists also violate human rights. He said terrorism is the cause of insane actions that stain the Latin American nations with blood; terrorism not only requires that we reiterate the need to repudiate it but also that we implement a concerted strategy to effectively combat and eradicate it.

Elsewhere in his speech, Minister Garcia discussed a cutback in military spending and disarmament in Latin America. In this regard, he emphasized that it is appropriate to jointly and wisely readjust military spending in Latin America to achieve economic and social development.

Garcia said that, in keeping with its unending pacifist calling and its unrestricted support for the implementation of the right to settle international conflicts, Chile resolutely supports any initiative designed to achieve regional agreements on this matter, agreements of a general nature, which are subject to control.

Referring to the Latin American economic situation, Minister Ricardo Garcia said Chile is concerned that the budget, monetary situation, foreign exchange, and competition problems of the industrialized nations could lead to measures that would increase the serious obstacles facing Latin American nations in their efforts to gain access to financial markets and international trade. He said it appears to be a contradiction but our economic systems have actually been transformed into exporters of scarce capital through the payment of interest.

Pinochet Addresses Businessmen on Plebiscite

PY111619 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpts] President Pinochet has urged the people to be alert in order to prevent a return to imperialistic adventures that have caused so much damage to the fatherland. Pinochet made this statement during an address to Chilean businessmen gathered at the Industrial Development Association, SOFOFA, to discuss the progress made in recent years. [passage omitted]

The president also referred to the plebiscite.

[Begin Pinochet recording] [applause] Soon Chile will experience an important historical event. The country's future will be decided in a plebiscite in which the voters will freely approve or reject the presidential candidate proposed by the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces and the director general of the Carabineros. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

The president then urged SOFOFA members to assume a position in keeping with the principles and values that everyone upholds. [passage omitted]

Matthei Comments Noted

PY111430 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Air Force Commander General Fernando Matthei has said the plebiscite will not be held by surprise or before September 1988.

The Air Force commander made this statement after presiding over a Government Junta session at the Diego Portales Building.

[Begin Matthei recording] It cannot be held by surprise because it is a serious event upon which all Chileans must be given the opportunity to reflect, and to listen to the arguments of all parties. We must allow the necessary time for the political parties to get organized, although it is obvious that some will never be able to get organized. But we must at least give those parties that are capable the necessary time to collect the required number of signatures and get organized to participate in the election with their points of view, which is very important.

Therefore, I do not believe any of us wants to take the people by surprise. In the first place, neither the Chilean people nor the rest of the world would accept a surprise. As the president himself said, this must be a free and well-informed plebiscite. [end recording]

Gen Matthei stated that should the candidate proposed by the Government Junta be elected president of the Republic in the plebiscite, he will exercise his post as a civilian.

[Begin Matthei recording] What we have maintained—this was stated by General Humberto Gordon [Government Junta member], and I can repeat it—is that when the candidate is elected president he will become a civilian, and I can assure you of this. According to the agreement reached—and we all agree on this—if the person who is elected by the majority is one of the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces, he will become a civilian to exercise the Presidency. By no means will the elected candidate remain the commander of any of the forces. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Further Reportage on Carreno Abduction Case

FPMR Reiterates Demands

PY111514 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0415 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Santiago, 10 Nov (EFE)—The armed Marxist group Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) today publicly reiterated its two demands for releasing Chilean Army Colonel Carlos Carreno, kidnapped 69 days ago.

In a communique distributed today to several communications media in Chile, the FPMR demands the distribution of $250,000 worth of clothing, foodstuffs, construction materials, and toys to 13 neighborhoods on the outskirts of Santiago.

Argentine Catholic priest Alfredo Soiza has acted as mediator in this case, and he has already received from the Carreno family the equivalent of $50,000.

Father Soiza has reported that the Carreno family gathered this amount by selling its house, automobile, furniture, and other goods, and by accepting the contributions of friends.

The Carreno family has announced that the distribution of food and other material will begin when the colonel is released, although the FPMR wants its demands to be met before the release.

Moreover, the FPMR has announced that it has a second demand, which it will make known in due time. According to an EFE report released on 29 October, the second demand consists of the distribution of a document to the communications media.

Since 21 September the local press has been forbidden to report on this case, because of an order issued by a military court.

However, military prosecutor Carlos Donoso, who is in charge of this case, reported today that the military court will not hinder negotiations by Father Soiza and the Carreno family because "they are outside the court's jurisdiction."

During a brief conversation with the local press, the prosecutor stated that significant progress has been made in the investigations of the kidnapping case. He expressed optimism about a solution, although he declined to say when one would be forthcoming.

Family Questions Demands

PY122220 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2032 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Santiago, 12 Nov (AFP)—Catholic priest Alfredo Soiza, who is acting as mediator in this case, today reported that the free distribution of foodstuffs, clothing, toys, and construction materials to 13 shantytowns in Santiago that was demanded by the left-wing kidnappers of Chilean Army Colonel Carreno has been suspended at the request of the officer's family.

Colonel Carlos Carreno, 40, the deputy director of Army Ordinance (FAMAE), was abducted by the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) on 1 September 1987.

Without elaborating, Father Soiza said that Carreno's relatives have raised $50,000 to purchase the goods to fulfill the FPMR demands but they are making the distribution of the goods conditional upon receiving certain guarantees about Carreno.

The negotiations between the FPMR and Carreno's family, with Father Soiza as mediator, are being conducted outside the government of General Augusto Pinochet, which has refused to negotiate with the FPMR because of its suspected association with the PCCh.

The police and the intelligence service have conducted investigations to find Carreno but Father Soiza does not think the Chilean authorities will hinder the distribution of the goods.

Soiza, an Argentine citizen who is the deputy vicar of the eastern sector of the Santiago diocese, was himself kidnapped and held for a long period of time a few years ago by left-wing guerrillas in Argentina.

Colombia

Navy Resumes Patrols in Disputed Gulf Area

PA120400 Paris AFP in Spanish 0106 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Bogota, 11 Nov (AFP)—The Navy announced today that Colombia has resumed naval patrols in the waters of the Gulf of Coquibacoa, from where it had withdrawn last August after an incident with a Venezuelan patrol boat.

"Coast Guard ships have reinitiated the patrols," said Admiral Rafael Grau, Colombian Navy commander. Grau said that Colombian corvettes that previously carried out that mission are currently participating in naval maneuvers in the Pacific.

Colombian patrols in the Gulf of Coquibacoa, also known as Gulf of Venezuela, had been suspended after Venezuela accused the *Caldas* corvette of violating its territorial waters.

Colombia, on the other hand, said that a Venezuelan patrol boat had penetrated Colombian waters.

The incident cooled relations between both countries.

Grau said today that the Colombian corvettes are conducting maneuvers in the Pacific with U.S. ships, but he said that "Coast Guard ships have resumed the patrols, especially in the exclusive economic areas.

Grau explained that surface and submarine units are participating in the Colombian-U.S. maneuvers. "Patrols in the Colombian areas of the gulf are conducted periodically by Coast Guard ships," Grau said.

Reconciliation, Human Rights Councils Created

PA120350 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Bogota—In order to speed up the mechanisms to restore normalcy in the country, the government has established the Permanent Consultative Council for the Policy of Reconciliation, Normalization, and Rehabilitation. It will be composed of five individuals appointed by the Colombian president. Its sessions can be attended by all those people whom the council thinks it should hear from in order to do its job better.

It will also hear the opinions of the ministers whenever the council or the government believes that their presence is necessary and useful. The permanent consultative council will also recommend to the government all those measures that are advisable to achieve the goals of the national rehabilitation plan and will supervise the implementation of the national rehabilitation plan and other programs that the government carries out in the area of reconciliation, normalization, and rehabilitation.

The government has also created the Presidential Council for the Defense, Protection, and Promotion of Human Rights. One of its main functions will be to process and respond to the requests and demands made by national and international organizations involved in the defense of human rights. This mission will be carried out by attorney Alvaro Tirado Mejia, who in the next few hours will meet with President Barco to receive his instructions.

The council will also learn about the charges of human rights violations that are filed with any public or private institution, coordinate the actions to guarantee adequate protection and defense of human rights, establish contacts with the UN and OAS human rights commissions, cooperate with investigative bodies, suggest to the government the measures that can be adopted to guarantee respect and protection of human rights, and provide the government with periodic reports on its work. Government institutions are also obliged to provide the council with all necessary cooperation so it can fulfill its mission.

Peru

Garcia Justifies Measures To Face Crisis

PA120344 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Nov 87

["Excerpts" of speech by President Alan Garcia in Cusco; date not given—recorded]

[Text] When asked why we suspended payments on our foreign debt, we can now answer: Because had we paid everything to foreign banks, we would now be more dependent on foreign banks, which are facing crisis and bankruptcy this year. [crowd claps and chants: "Alan, Alan"]

When I am asked why we banned the purchase and sale of dollars on the streets, when we are asked why we established an exchange control by banning the sale of dollars and foreign exchange, we calmly answer: Because we knew tha the great world crisis was going to be upon us soon, and we needed to keep all available dollars inside the country to prevent this crisis from finding us unprotected and unprepared; rather, we wanted to be found ready to defend our national economy. When asked why we banned the remittance of funds abroad, we say: The answer is found in Peru's bank of reserves, where we have more reserves in gold, silver, and hard European currencies than we received 2 years ago. We have turned the Central Reserves Bank into a storehouse [tambo] to defend Peru from international (?crises). [crowd claps and chants: "Alan, Alan"]

Why did we nationalize banks despite insults and offences? Why did we run the risk of being publicly offended and insulted? We reply: Because the management of money, credit, and other forms of exchange [quasi-dinero] is all-important in a society that is preparing itself to tackle the crisis.

We saw the storm heading toward the financial world, the stock markets in New York, Hong Kong, and London. We knew that this would bring about times during which the price of our work would drop in the world; we would be paid less money and collect less money. We warned about this before the United Nations, before 150 countries of the world. How could we remain passive knowing that the largest capital crisis in history was in the making? The crisis of debt, declining productivity, and expenditures; the crisis of death in space and nuclear war in space. Knowing that capitalism [words indistinct] and spends all its resources, we realized that a great crisis was upon us. How could we then not change the state of things and fail to prudently prepare ourselves?

We learned from our forefathers, the Incas, what is historically prudent through their actions and their storehouses used to collect and save for bad times, the crises and droughts. In this drought of capitalism that has begun, we are the best prepared country in Latin America, because we not only have gold, silver, and foreign exchange in our storehouses, but also employ more people in our factories now than 5 years ago.

Police Confirm M-19 Support for MRTA

PA100001 Paris AFP in Spanish 1755 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Lima, 9 Nov (AFP)—Colombia's M-19 has reinforced the Tupac Amaru guerrillas in Peru with experts in guerrilla warfare for expanding their activities in the Amazon plain and in the kidnapping of wealthy businessmen to finance their struggle with "revolutionary shares or quotas" [cupos revolucionarios]. This was confirmed today by the antiterrorist police in Lima.

The Colombian guerrilla aid was made public last Friday, after a contingent of 120 MRTA (Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement) militiamen occupied the city of Juanjui for 5 hours and harangued its 12,000 inhabitants to join the armed struggle, a brigade spokesman said.

It was already known that the M-19 and the MRTA had been allied for more than 1 year in the "America Battalion" with the Ecuadoran Alfaro Lives group and the Chilean Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front. No one had any idea, however, of the active collaboration that existed between the Colombian guerrillas and the MRTA, he added.

The Tupac Amaru guerrillas who occupied Juanjui, San Martin Department, 600 km northeast of Lima, were led by "Commander Rolando," it was reported.

The Peruvian police identified him as Hugo Castro, an M-19 guerrilla who was apparently tasked by MRTA to coordinate its subversive operations in that region of Central Huallaga Province.

An extensive report by a Peruvian television station last night showed "Commander Rolando" in an olive drab uniform, kepi, and rubber boots, with a machinegun draped over his shoulder. This is the characteristic uniform of the Peruvian pro-Guevara guerrillas who recently initiated a new phase in the struggle with a People's Revolutionary Army (ERP). The rest of the guerrillas, young men and women carrying different types of weapons, wore similar uniforms. One woman guerrilla, identified as Elvira Gonzales from Spain, filmed the MRTA's incursions in Juanjui and San Jose de Sisa.

The guerrilla chief—his face covered with a handkerchief—denied in the report any alliance with the narcotics traffic mafia, thereby denying Interior Ministry charges. He said the police operate in the region with the help of "Yankee advisers as part of an escalation to convert Peru into a future Vietnam."

The guerrillas were interviewed on Saturday in San Jose de Sisa, northeast of Juanjui, which they also occupied for a few hours after withdrawing from Juanjui. In Juanjui they killed one policeman, wounded 10, and destroyed all police posts and several government buildings, according to an official Interior Ministry report.

"We are similar to the America Battalion and the M-19 because we are fighting not only for Peru, but for America," "Commander Rolando" told the television reporters.

The incident in Juanjui is the largest MRTA operation since its 8 October incursions, with the new ERP, in Tabalosos, Soritor, and other small towns of the region, according to the authoriries.

Calm was restored in Juanjui with a combined force of more than 200 soliders and policemen with armed helicopter support; these forces are now pursuing the guerrilla column through the jungle.

The authorities said that a state of emergency will be declared in the region, and it will be placed under the control of a political-military command, with a curfew to be declared in the most heavily affected areas.

To deny they receive help from the narcotics traffickers, who have large cocaine production centers in the area, the guerrilla chief said that they obtain money "from taxes collected from the oligarchy."

"The wealthy pay for the guerrilla warfare. Many companies in Lima are paying. We also obtain revolutionary taxes from kidnappings and from what we recover through some attacks," he explained.

In Lima the antiterrorist police claimed to have sufficient evidence to confirm that since 1983, the MRTA and its Colombian accomplices have been connected with the kidnappings of banker Jose Onrubia, construction magnate Julio Vera, industrialist Federico Astock, and the poultry-raising tycoon Julio Ikeda. It was never learned how much these individuals paid to recover their freedom.

MRTA Declares 'Open Warfare'

PA120245 Paris AFP in Spanish 0054 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Lima, 11 Nov (AFP)—In a message to the Amazonian peoples, the MRTA —which started "open warfare" as of Friday, when it carried out the Juanjui attack—issued a call to form a great front "for justice and peace," and criticized the Shining Path's "silent revolution."

"We want to form a great front for justice and peace. Thus, we are calling upon the popular organizations, the APRA's rank and file, the United Left, the church, and anyone who cares to join," affirmed "Commander Rolando" on Tuesday before a group of Lima newsmen at the town of Senami, San Martin, which had been "peacefully" taken over by the MRTA.

"Something that cannot be silent is a revolution. It must have a language with which to reach the 20 million Peruvians," said the guerrilla fighter when he criticized the actions carried out by the Shining Path, adding that Shining Path's vision of the Peruvian reality is "erroneous and questionable."

The MRTA leader, a 34-year-old doctor whom the police identified after the Juanjui attack as having a "Caribbean accent," denied in Senami—about 20 km from San Jose de Sisa, taken over on Sunday—that there are foreigners in his people's army, and that he has any links with the "narcos," whom he termed "the scum that harm Peruvian youth."

"We have many former militarymen in our ranks, and we have the close cooperation of many officers," he affirmed.

As had been done in Juanjui, San Jose de Sisa, San Martin de Alao, and other towns, the people were called out to the main plaza in Senami, where, after the hoisting of the MRTA flag amid hurrahs and chants, a popular assembly was held "concerning their needs," and the people were urged to join the "armed struggle."

The MRTA leader criticized the government's policy, adding that they will not rest until the region has been turned into a "liberated zone."

He pointed out that the struggle is financed with "taxes and material confiscated from the bourgeoisie." The MRTA confirmed that an arsenal of 126 modern weapons and a large amount of ammunition had been seized at Juanjui.

Meanwhile, the government—which yesterday decreed a state of emergency in seven San Martin provinces, bringing to 34 the number of provinces placed under military control in the country—sent today to Moyobamba, capital of the department, an airplane with logistical support and fresh troops that will join the 300 units already there.

An official Defense Ministry communique pointed out that "the subversive actions that have taken place recently in the city of Juanjui demonstrate the degree of danger posed by an armed group that, taking advantage of the zone's geographic characteristics, proceeded to destroy public and private property."

The document added that the government reiterated its firm decision, within the framework of the constitutional order, to "fight and erradicate this type of action which affects the country's democratic status."

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Jose Barsallo and Defense Minister Enrique Lopez Albujar will appear Thursday before the Senate to explain "what is happening" in the Peruvian Amazon region, in the midst of "sharp criticism" for the "government's ineffective antisubversive struggle."

Shining Path Murders Seven in Ayacucho

PA121717 Paris AFP in Spanish 1511 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Lima, 11 Nov (AFP)—Seven people, among them two women, were murdered by a Maoist Shining Path column in the remote hamlet of Carhuapampa, Ayacucho, in the Andean southwest, police in the region confirmed today.

The group, comprised of approximately 20 heavily armed and hooded individuals, entered the hamlet in question in La Mar Province 3 days ago, machinegunning people who were in the Civil Defense building and killing Mario Lapa, 28, head of the organization, and his colleague, Apolinario Panao, 48.

Five more people, including three men—Humberto Silvera, 18; Gilberto Fernandez, 18; and Mauricio Jeri, 17—and two women—Maria Hinostroza and Delia Gonzalez—who tried to confront the rebels were also murdered, while Baldomero Tineo was wounded, according to reports received by the authorities in the region from Narciso Chavez, 22, another Civil Defense member, who also survived the attack.

Residents of the hamlet tried to defend themselves with slingshots and a few shotguns, killing one of the terrorists and wounding another, whose identity has not been disclosed. After 1/2 hour of fighting the rebels withdrew from the hamlet, sources said.

Uruguay

Government, Labor Leaders on PIT-CNT Strike

PY111358 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] While labor leaders have stated that they are satisfied with the results of the 10 November strike, government officials reported that everything was normal during this strike. No incidents involving buses or other public transportation were reported and public services and utilities operated normally although under police protection. Many pensioners managed to collect their pensions as scheduled. However, just to make sure, the management of the Social Security Fund indicated that if anyone were unable to collect his pension yesterday, he could do so today.

The three rallies scheduled by the PIT-CNT were held without problems, and thousands of workers attended these rallies to hear the organization's rejection of the prevailing low salaries and government economic policy in general.

One of PIT-CNT leaders, Eduardo Fernandez, told Radio El Espectador that a high percentage of workers complied with the call to strike, and added that the executive board of the organization will hold a meeting to evaluate its results. [passage omitted]

Economy Minister on Foreign Debt Figures

PY101502 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0157 GMT 10 Nov 87

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Nov (EFE)—Economy Minister Ricardo Zerbino today stated that Uruguay, which has one of the highest foreign debts per capita in Latin America, has refinanced $1.779 billion of its $5-billion foreign debt "under some of the best conditions ever achieved in Latin America."

Zerbino added that the refinancing will lower the amount of interest we will have to pay due to a reduction of the additional interest that the banks add to the LIBOR [London Interbank Offered Rate]."

The minister did not reveal any figures, but reliable sources have indicated that during the first 3 months of 1987 [date as received] an agreement will be signed with the 80 creditor banks, which includes a reduction from 9/16 to 7/16 percent on the LIBOR rate.

Zerbino also stressed that we have achieved "a fundamental reduction in the servicing of the debt because we have obtained an additional 3-year grace period."

The refinancing will extend until the 2d year of the tenure of the next government, which will take office on 1 March 1990, after the November 1989 elections are held.

Zerbino highlighted the fact that "any party in power at that time will have the 1990 and 1991 deadlines already refinanced, thus we are lifting a very great financial burden from the shoulders of the next government."

The refinancing of the Uruguayan foreign debt will expire in 2004, because we reached an 8-year agreement after reaching a 10-year refinancing agreement, which will expire in 1996.

In 1986 Julio Maria Sanguinetti's Uruguayan Government signed a 10-year refinancing package, with a 3-year grace period, for $263 million with 4 European banks (3 Spanish and 1 Dutch bank).

The calendar of deadlines for Uruguay's public foreign debt contemplates the payment of $594 million in 1987, 553.8 million in 1988, $406.8 million in 1989, and $433.1 million in 1990.

This schedule includes expiration dates running from 1985, when Sanguinetti took office after 12 years of military regime, until 1990.

According to official sources, Uruguay's gross foreign debt amounts to $5.193 billion with $3.828 billion belonging to the public sector and $1.364 billion to the private sector.

The net foreign debt amounts to $2.594 billion with the state owing $1.862 billion

The Central Bank's international reserves amount to $828 million, figuring the gold troy ounce at $323.